

Press release

RWE and EMR transform fire-damaged components of Scroby Sands Turbine into future resources

- **Over 140 tonnes of material recovered and returned to the UK circular economy**
- **Project highlights RWE's commitment to sustainable wind farm lifecycle management**

Swindon, 16 April 2026

RWE, a pioneer of offshore wind, is giving a second wind to deconstructed components from a turbine at its Scroby Sands Offshore Wind Farm, one of the UK's earliest renewable energy projects and located 2.5 km off the Norfolk coast.

The nacelle, blades and top section of the turbine were damaged to varying degrees by fire in August 2023. The components have since been deconstructed and were transferred to EMR, a UK based global leader in circular materials for recovery and recycling in its nearby facilities at Great Yarmouth and Lenwade.

As a result, over 140 tonnes of metals, composites, and other materials have since been recovered and have now re-entered the UK circular economy. This reduces reliance on newly imported resources from volatile supply chains, supports RWE's commitment to improving circularity and waste reduction, and contributes to low-carbon secondary material markets.

Volker Türk, RWE Offshore Head of Sustainability, said: "RWE is a champion of low-carbon sustainable power and so we're delighted with these early indications of what can be achieved through recycling and reuse. As early operational wind farms come to the end of their working life, we are applying the same level of innovation and responsibility to how we handle recovered turbine components. Through EMR, we have ensured that these turbine components are returned to the economy not landfill, while supporting local industry in Norfolk."

The project with EMR demonstrates how older turbine components can be responsibly deconstructed and recycled, achieving an overall recycling rate of over 99%, recovering steel, aluminium, copper, and blade composites while avoiding over [150 tonnes of CO₂e](#) emissions compared to primary material production.

How was it done?

Component	Action Taken
Blades	downsized and transformed into polymers for new applications, including motorway drainage systems.
Nacelle	including the generator, was processed at EMR's permitted facilities recovering valuable metals to produce new high quality, low carbon circular materials;
Upper Tower Section	was recycled locally, by EMR, ensuring minimal transport and reduced emissions.

Bill Firth, EMR General Manager of Business Development, added: "Scroby Sands Offshore Wind Farm helped kickstart the UK's offshore wind journey. By responsibly recycling components and materials today, we're helping power tomorrow. This vital collaboration between renewables and recycling industries demonstrates the required circular supply chains that future energy systems will depend on.

"This project is part of EMR's long-term investment to build a scalable recycling system for the renewable infrastructure of the future. In 2024, we opened a purpose-built Wind Turbine Processing Centre in Glasgow, designed specifically to recover rare-earth magnets and other critical materials from end-of-life turbines."

As wind farms age, responsible de-construction and recycling will become increasingly important. RWE is already leading the way with [recyclable turbine rotor blades](#) on its latest offshore projects, including at the 1.4 gigawatts (GW) Sofia Offshore Wind Farm. The company supports the European initiative for a voluntary landfill ban on turbine blades, both onshore and offshore, and is committed to the sustainable reuse, recovery, or recycling of these components.

The work at Scroby Sands represents a further step in preparing for the next phase of the wind industry.

Images of Scroby Sands components undergoing recycling for media use (credit: EMR) are available at the [RWE Media Centre](#)

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RWE

RWE

RWE is leading the way to a modern energy world. With its investment and growth strategy, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. RWE is investing billions of euros in expanding its generation portfolio, in particular in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy and batteries. It is perfectly complemented by its global energy trading business. Thanks to its integrated portfolio of renewables, battery storage and flexible generation, as well as its broad project pipeline of possible new builds, RWE is well positioned to address the growing global demand for electricity, particularly driven by further electrification and artificial intelligence. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

EMR

At EMR, we recycle, reuse and repurpose today's materials to make tomorrow's. Leveraging our global scale, empowered experts, circular innovation, and lifecycle consultancy, we lead the way in increasing recycling rates, avoiding carbon from being released into the atmosphere and creating the valuable resources of tomorrow. It's our mission to create a future where the materials we use don't need to be extracted from the Earth. That means thinking bigger than recycling! We guide the world's best brands to design with recycling in mind, implement more recycled content into their products and work with our peers collaboratively solving the challenges of tomorrow. From steel to aluminium, copper to plastics, we deliver high-quality, low-carbon products and circular consultancy to help our customers reach their sustainability goals. Because it's not just our planet, it's our responsibility

Together we remake tomorrow.

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