



Innlandet
fylkeskommune

Green and Sustainable Energy Transition

Regional perspectives from Innlandet County

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Today's key topics

- Why this focus on energy?
- Crash Course in Innlandet
- Energy as a driver of regional development
 - Industrial development initiative
 - Regional production guidelines
 - Regional grid-plan
- What is the problem?

Norwegian electricity is the cleanest in the world

1 kWh electricity consumption

- Norge ~ 15 g CO₂
- EU ~ 230 g CO₂
- USA ~ 289 g CO₂
- Globally ~ 473 g CO₂



Why do we focus on energy?

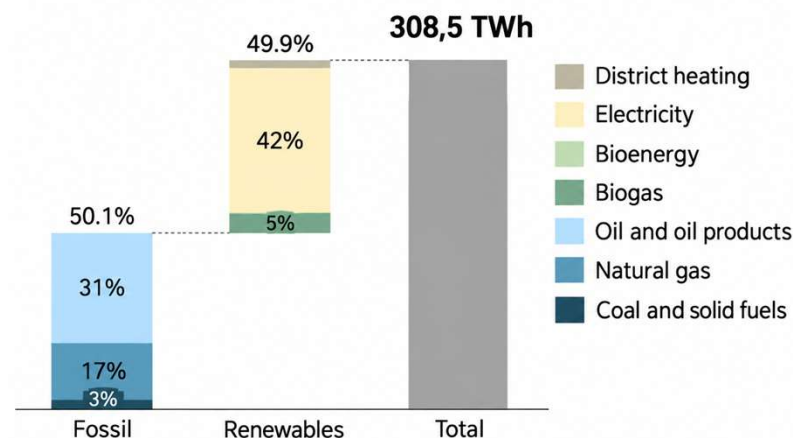
Norway's climate targets require new renewable power.

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Norway, it is necessary to decrease the share of fossil fuels in energy consumption.

Today, **around half of Norway's total energy use still comes from fossil energy sources**. Electrification of fossil-based processes in industry and transport is therefore a key measure for achieving the energy transition and meeting national climate targets.

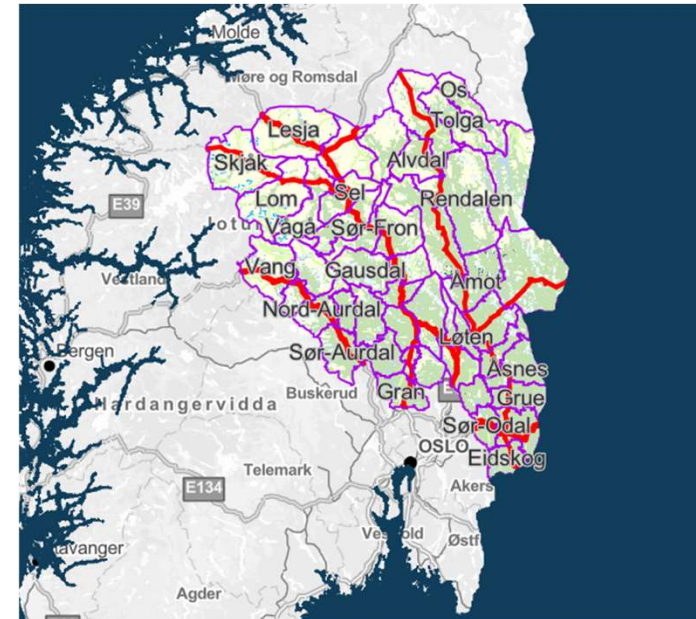
The energy transition is not only about climate policy. It is increasingly about security, competitiveness and regional development.

Energy use in Norway by energy type 2023 (TWh)



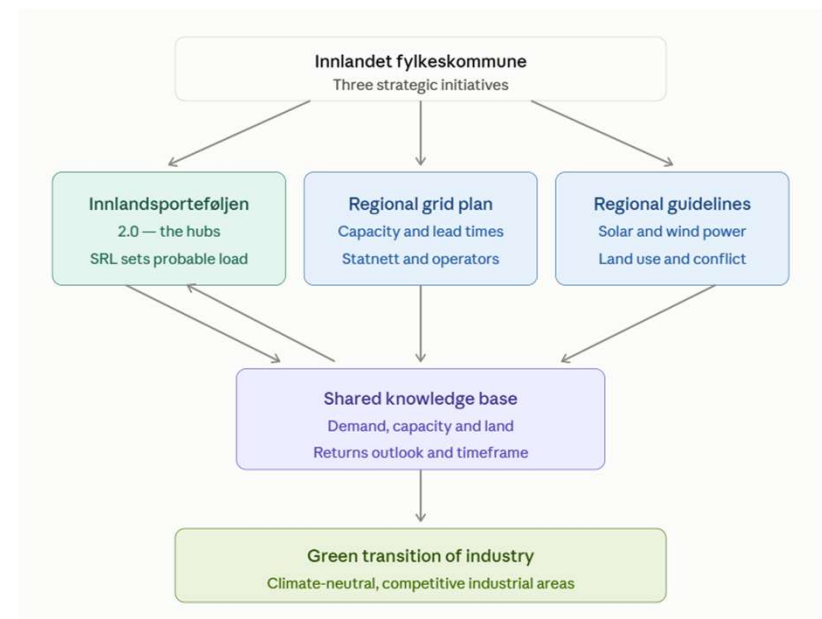
Innlandet county

- Norway's largest county by area, home to Norway's largest lake and longest river
- Hosts 54% of Europe's wild reindeer population
- 40% of Norway's annual timber harvest
- Norway's weakest transmission grid region
- The only region in Norway without a 420 kV transmission
- The highest number of proposed solar and wind power projects in Norway
- Total electricity production (2023): approx. 11 TWh
- Hydropower: approx. 10 TWh (90%), Wind: approx. 1 TWh (10%), Solar: currently negligible, but rapidly growing
- Power surplus: approx. 5 TWh exported to other regions of Norway
- **Challenge:** Increasing demand for electricity, while grid capacity is constrained in several parts of the region



Energy as a driver of regional development

- Previously, access to land and labour were the key factors.
- Today, access to electricity is often decisive for where businesses choose to locate.
- We are moving from a situation of relative balance between electricity supply and demand to increasing competition for available grid capacity.





Industry

We are working systematically with industrial sites and business hubs through the [Inland portfolio](#) initiative. This strategy has given us a clear picture of growth opportunities across the region.



Production

We developed [regional guidelines for solar and wind power](#), providing predictability and helping identify areas where new renewable energy projects can be developed with lower conflict levels.

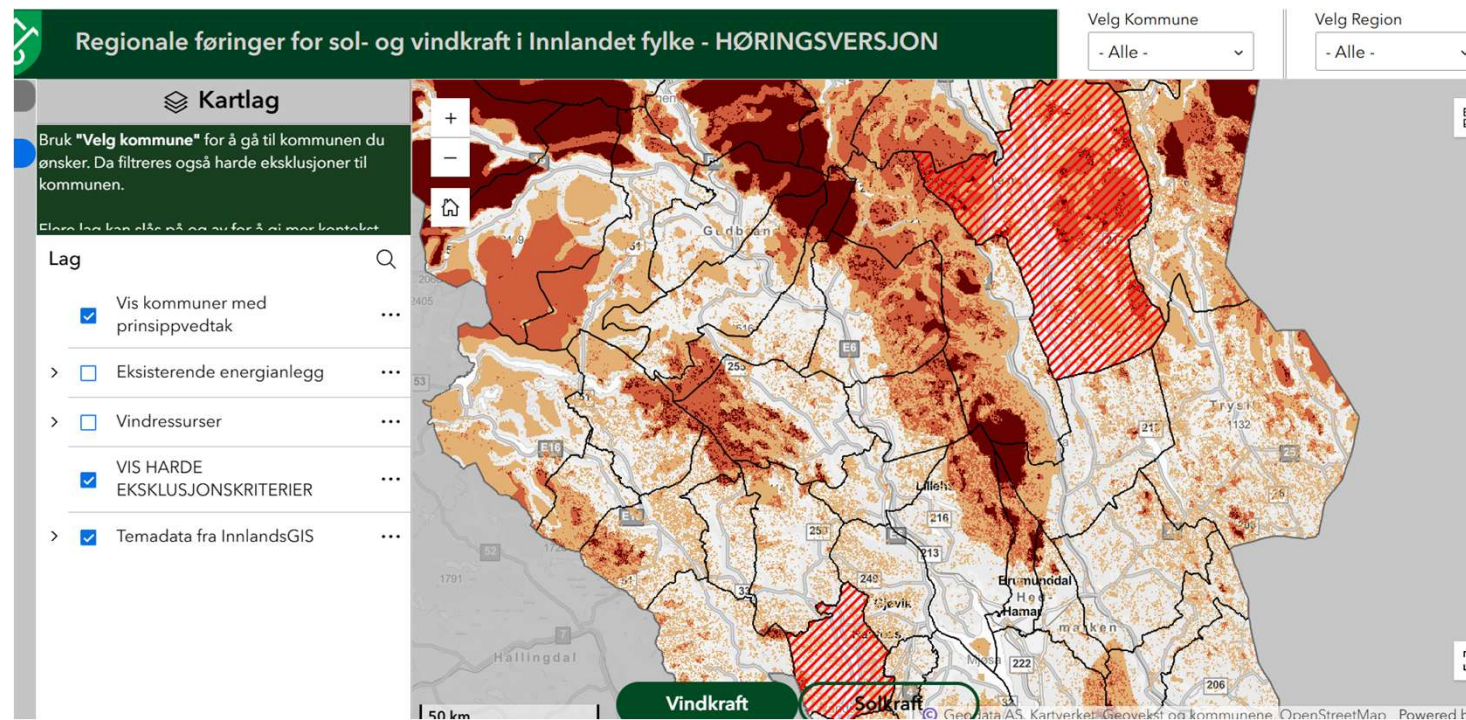


Grid

We launched a [Regional Power Grid Plan](#), a national pilot that brings together municipalities, grid companies and authorities around a shared understanding of future grid needs and priorities.

Regional guidelines for solar and wind power

- Politically adopted guidelines, developed in close cooperation with the State Administrator and through dialogue with all 46 municipalities in Innlandet
- A regional conflict map and knowledge base, covering key land-use and environmental considerations
- Suitable, unsuitable, and everything in between...
- Ensure comprehensive and long-term assessments of wind and solar power projects, while promoting sustainable land-use management



Regional Power Grid Plan

- Grid development takes far too long.
- The Innlandet Model could cut development timelines by up to 10 years.
- This is the first initiative of its kind in Norway. We are testing a coordinated planning process under the Planning and Building Act and the Energy Act.
- We are still in the early stages, with the first part of the plan soon to be submitted for public consultation.

Fylkesordføreren signerte avtale med Statnett

Målet med avtalen er å få fart på nettutbyggingen i Innlandet.

– Med denne avtalen er et nytt og viktig skritt tatt for å utvikle den nasjonale piloten for en raskere og mer effektiv utbygging av strømnettet i Innlandet, sier fylkesordfører Thomas Breen.

Han er særlig fornøyd med at avtalen også har med de regionale nettselskapene.

– På den måten kan vi i større grad få til samtidighet mellom det nasjonale og regionale nettet. Vi har som mål å redusere tidshorizonten med 10 år, det er høyst realistisk med denne avtalen.

Breen mener det også er helt avgjørende å spille på lag med kommunene for å lykkes med dette, og det legger avtalen godt til rette for.

– Med det som nå ligger i avtalen, er jeg svært fornøyd med utviklingen av piloten. Dette blir bra!



Fylkesordfører Thomas Breen er veldig fornøyd med avtalen fylkeskommunen og Statnett har signert for å få fortgang på nettutbyggingen.

Foto: Mina Haugli



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So, what's the challenge?

- **Local acceptance is a key challenge.**

Norway has vast areas, but much of what we value most is the sense of untouched nature.

Renewable energy production is often most efficient where few people live. This creates a paradox: we tend to prefer energy infrastructure away from where we live, but those are often the same areas we want to keep untouched.

- **Limited understanding and acceptance of the actual need**

“Just cut the interconnectors.”, “We should simply save more energy.”

- **Local opposition can be amplified by organised campaigns**

Misinformation and oversimplified narratives can shape the debate

- **Energy access, scarcity and security**

Access to energy is no longer something we can take for granted.



From energy challenge to regional opportunity

Thank you

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