



# T3 Load Re-opener

# Voltage Project

## Eligibility Letter

**High**

Document Classification | **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - REDACTED**



Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

|               |   |                     |   |
|---------------|---|---------------------|---|
| T3LR-EL-004   | <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <b>High Voltage Project</b><br><b>RIIO-T3 Eligibility Letter</b> |                     | Applies to  |
|               |   |                     | Transmission ✓  |
| Revision: 1.0 | Classification: Confidential  | Issue Date: 05/2026 | Project Number:<br><div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div> |

## Executive Summary

This Eligibility Letter, under Special Licence Condition (SpC) 3.18 within our Transmission Licence, sets out our request for Ofgem approval of the needs case and preferred option for the  High Voltage Project, and to set a PCD covering Pre-Construction Funding by amending SpC 3.15. In support of the project, SSEN Transmission (SSENT) is requesting an additional PCF allowance of  under SpC 3.15. The estimated project cost is .

At RIIO-T3 final determination Ofgem decided that the needs case for SSEN-Transmission Steady State Voltage Paper including  is justified as these works are required for compliance and have been confirmed as needed via the NESO. Furthermore, Ofgem considered that the optioneering was partially justified as there were concerns around the scope of works planned. Ofgem's view was that this investment was partially justified on the basis of the chosen static synchronous compensator (STATCOM) equipment location's proximity to the current substations.

Without approval of the preferred option, and subsequent release of Pre-Construction Funding, we are unable to progress this project. The reactive compensation is required for multiple drivers in the area including supporting operation of the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment (ASTI) projects,  and the UK government Clean Power plan and associated connections.

This Eligibility Letter represents the detailed, multi-disciplinary optioneering work undertaken since the February 2025 submission and our response to Ofgem's Draft Determinations for RIIO-T3. Its purpose is to demonstrate how the optimal solution has been identified to meet the approved system need. The need has already been approved by Ofgem at Final Determinations.

Steady-state system analysis was conducted to assess the requirement for voltage support across our network through 2030 and beyond. This analysis ensures compliance with planning and operational voltage limits in accordance with the National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard (NETS SQSS).

to ensure compliance with NETS SQSS voltage limits. . It was acknowledged that further optioneering would be necessary to determine the most effective and efficient solution.

In reviewing viable options for the location of the static synchronous compensator (STATCOM),  However, installation constraints and interactivity with the connections queue limit the ability to locate the synchronous compensator equipment at  275kV Substation. There are several constraints that rule out further direct expansion of the  site

- Any connection at  275kV will require the extension of the 275kV busbar to either the West or East. Noting that the proposed East busbar extension works for the connection of  are in advanced stages of planning consents with an energisation date of June 2030. Any variation to accommodate the reactive compensation may require a resubmission of the planning consent currently with the Highland Council for approval, which would have negative implications on the developer's contracted connection date.
- A west-side expansion would require platform modifications requiring approximately  of fill to be exported off-site due to the steep topography, resulting in increased impacts on the local community, traffic movements, environmental receptors and cost.
- A west-side platform extension would directly interface with the  underground cable (UGC) and , necessitating removal and re-routing, thereby increasing cost, complexity, outage requirements, and delivery risk.

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|                      |  |                            | Transmission ✓  |
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- A further east side expansion would mean a requirement for challenging diversion of an existing watercourse again thereby increasing cost, complexity, and delivery risk.

Our analysis shows that locating the synchronous compensation equipment at an offline site connected back to  will deliver the STATCOM when the voltage stability is required and with the least amount of constraints, planning and consenting risk. Therefore, we will progress with an eastern busbar extension for the LNC connection to reduce land take and environmental impact on the eastern side whilst still allowing for the necessary busbar extension to facilitate the static synchronous compensator extension

The proposed solutions are Pre-Approval of Solutions by Engineering (PASE) Primary options, as we have received letters of support from the National Energy System Operator (NESO). However, the offline satellite build for the  STATCOM is non-PASE compliant. This document contains extensive optioneering and justification for the progressed solution.

The Need is clear and the Option is justified therefore the project should be placed in Track 2. We ask that Ofgem:

- Confirm eligibility for the LR
- Confirm Track 2 pathway for regulatory funding, progressing straight to Project Assessment
- Amend SpC 3.15 Pre-Construction Funding in line with the Final Determination decision of 8.2% PCF
- Confirm that an ITA and ODI will not apply

This submission is made in accordance with Special Licence Condition (SpC) 3.15 ("Pre-Construction Funding Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable") of SSEN-T's Licence. The content within this submission is aligned to the requirements in Ofgem's "Re-opener Guidance and Application Requirements Document Version 4" (dated 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025).

We are applying to Ofgem for a direction to amend the outputs and associated allowances in Appendix 2 of SpC 3.15 of our Licence. This is permissible in respect of new Load Re-opener Outputs. SSEN-T may apply to the Authority for a direction amending the outputs, delivery dates, or associated allowances by submitting an Eligibility Letter for the relevant Load Re-opener as set out in Part D of Special Condition 3.18 Load Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable (LRt).