

 Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION	Document reference	24032021
	Revision	FINAL
	Function	Major Projects

Meeting	Alyth Substation - Community Liaison Group
Date	24th March 2021
Time	6.00pm – 8.00pm

Alyth Substation CLG Attendees and Apologies:

Attendees	Position
Dennis Speirs (DS)	SSEN Transmission Project Manager
Neil Macdonald (NM)	SSEN Transmission Construction Manager
Louise Anderson (LA)	SSEN Community Liaison Manager
Cllr Fiona Sarwar (FS)	Perth & Kinross Council - Strathmore Ward
Cllr Lewis Simpson (LS)	Perth & Kinross Council - Strathmore Ward
Simon Montador (SM)	Alyth Development Trust Representative
Edward Clayhills-Henderson (ECH)	Local Resident
James MacMillan (JM)	Local Resident
Adrian Ivory (AI)	Local Resident and Land Owner
Apologies	Position
Cllr Colin Stewart (CF)	P&K Council - Strathmore Ward
Provost Dennis Melloy (DM)	P&K Council - Strathmore Ward
Iain Donaldson (ID)	Alyth Community Council Representative
Bob Ellis (BE)	Meigle and Ardler Community Council Representative

Minutes

1.0	Introductions and apologies
1.1	Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves to the rest of the group. Apologies from Cllr Stewart, Provost Melloy, Iain Donaldson and Bob Ellis.
2.0	Approval of previous minutes and matters arising
2.1	As this is the inaugural meeting for the Alyth substation CLG there are no previous minutes.
3.0	What is a CLG?
3.1	LA advised that on all SSEN Transmission major projects we wish to work with the community with respect to keeping them informed of works associated with our projects and ensuring that where possible all works are undertaken to minimise impacts on the local community. They create an open forum for engagement and allow us to bring various stakeholders together to discuss key issues and seek to find solutions to any issues that may occur. The Community Liaison Group has been set up to discuss and make the community aware of upcoming and ongoing works and ensure a clear line of communication of resolving any concerns during the project. The CLG has no statutory powers of its own and is established for the purpose of providing a platform for constructive discussion with local residents in relation to continued construction whilst providing regular project updates.
4.0	Terms of Reference
4.1	The Terms of Reference that were shared with the meeting invite were accepted by the CLG members.

5.0	Project Overview / Update
5.1	<p>DS gave the CLG members an overview of the Alyth substation project and explained the chosen site was preferred as it is close to the junction tower where the existing 275kV overhead line (OHL) between Fetteresso, Tealing and Kincardine is located and also confirmed that the energisation date is October 2023.</p> <p>The enabling works to install access tracks to site and for undertaking the Public Road Improvement (PRI) works commenced in October 2020 and are expected to be complete by May 2021. These works had expected to finish by the end of April, but due to recent flooding in the area they have been delayed. As part of the PRI works a new culvert has been built to highway standards and approved by Perth and Kinross Council.</p> <p>The construction of the new substation will be delivered by the recently appointed Principal Contractor, a joint venture team comprising of Siemens and BAM Nuttall. The OHL element of the overall project was granted Section 37 consent on 25th March 2020 and will be carried out by the Principal Contractor, Balfour Beatty.</p> <p>DS showed a development overview drawing which showed where the substation will be built and explained that the lines running into the substation were showing tie-ins that are required to connect the OHL into the substation.</p> <p>AI requested to know the height of the buildings and SM requested to know how big the site is, in terms that can be understood by the public e.g. number of football fields. SSEN Transmission confirmed they would obtain this information and confirm the details.</p> <p>A drawing showing the substation layout was also shared with the CLG members and JM requested a drawing showing the overall footprint of the substation and associated buildings to be provided. SSEN Transmission confirmed they would arrange for this.</p> <p>DS advised that Alyth substation will be a 10 bay 275kV GIS substation and built to a 400kV standard, installing STATCOM and MSCDN. Now that coal fire power stations are coming off line and significant number of wind turbines being connected the network needs regulation of voltage, to minimise voltage fluctuations. Current design allows space provision for 2 new super grid transformers (SGTs) and 2 spare bays will be installed within the building so that when the substation is updated to 400kV the substation will be a 12 bay 400kV GIS substation.</p>
5.2	<p>JM asked what security measures would be in place for the substation. NM confirmed there would be a palisade fence along with 24-hour CCTV, which would consist of fixed cameras, facing each other. DS advised that the security design was still to be decided, and an update would be provided at future CLGs.</p> <p>JM also asked about noise levels. DS explained that previously the site was an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation, which has a higher noise output, but the design was then updated to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation so any associated noise levels would be reduced compared to AIS. SiemensBAM are governed to ensure noise levels are met as per the planning conditions.</p> <p>Conversations were held surrounding if there was going to be a bund up to the North side. NM confirmed that there would be a 3.6metre bund, to go along the North and West perimeter and the existing tree belt will get supplementary planting, but this part of the project was still under development. One of the planning conditions is screening, and SiemensBAM have to provide this and Perth & Kinross Council will have to approve. JM stated that a 3.6metre bund was not very high, but NM explained that where there isn't height, Perth & Kinross Council will look at supplementary planting too so further screening is provided.</p>
5.3	<p>DS talked further on the PRI works and advised that the U100 road had now been widened to a 6-metre-wide road. The CLG members who were local residents confirmed they were happy with these works to date. Also, as part of the PRI works the disused railway bridge was demolished and all stone donated to a local stone mason.</p> <p>DS explained that the planning application SSEN Transmission submitted to Perth and Kinross Council wouldn't let the height of the road be increased and so SSEN Transmission has put in additional drainage and a new culvert to help with flooding that does occur. DS confirmed that the substation itself sits above the flood plain so won't be affected by any future flooding.</p>
5.4	<p>DS talked about upcoming works and explained that the top soil will be soon be stripped with an excavator for platform installation to begin, he advised that when this work is carried out there will be 3 archaeologists on site to ensure there are no archaeological issues.</p> <p>The main contract for the substation works starts in June, and upcoming activities from April onwards will consist of forming the platform for the welfare compound and installing the haul road from site entrance. Ground investigations have been completed and this information passed to SiemensBAM to allow design to be prepared.</p>

	<p>JM asked when will the design be complete, and DS advised within the next 6 months., DS also confirmed that there will be piles in the footprint but SiemensBAM will aim to reduce the number of these where possible. Updates on this will be provided at future CLGs.</p> <p>DS advised that the project is now moving to enabling activities, which will consist of civil works preparing the platform. April/May will see the commencement of the haul road being constructed. For the OHL works, Balfour Beatty will be mobilising to site in May. The OHL works have been split into 2 lots. Lot 1 which consists of the tie-ins are expected to be complete by November 2021. Lot 2 consists of adjusting the sag of 185km of OHL, these works are termed as re-profiling and are necessary as the temperature of the conductors will be increased to generate an increase in power flow.</p> <p>AI asked about traffic on the newly upgraded U100. DS confirmed that as part of the planning conditions a Traffic Management Plan will be in place. There will be traffic movements, in the way of aggregate import, plant and materials on the U100, and this was why the road was widened to reduce impact to the local community.</p> <p>SM asked how many people would be on site. DS confirmed at peak there will be 80 industrial staff on site at any given time.</p>
5.5	<p>DS explained SSEN Transmission make safety their number one priority on all projects and this is given key focus across the Alyth substation project.</p> <p>Risk assessments and method statements are carried out for all activities and a driver's code of conduct will be implemented, NM advised that a term of reference for site traffic will be 10MPH, and this will be conveyed to all parties via the site induction. Any individual found to be continually breaching the driver's code of conduct will result in them being removed from site.</p> <p>DS also confirmed that COVID-19 measures are currently in place and are updated as and when necessary in line with Government guidelines and that there will be a full time Health & Safety representative on site.</p>
5.6	<p>DS also confirmed that an ornithologist will be employed to ensure no detrimental effects on the Ospreys that return to the area each year. They are expected to return in April and leave when the chicks have fledged around mid to late August.</p>
6.0	Community Queries
6.1	<p>LA gave an update on recent community donations that the project team have made, donations have been made to both Burrelton and Meigle Primary as well as The Alyth Development Trust.</p> <p>The 'Be the Difference Scheme' which allows the project team to give a day volunteering in the form of skills-based assistance, painting, DIY, gardening and even school visits was explained to the CLG members. Currently the scheme is suspended due to COVID, but if there's anything the CLG members think of that could benefit from this scheme, they were encouraged to contact LA with details.</p> <p>LA also advised of the local supply chain meeting that was held on 9 March, where the project team introduced members of the Principal Contractor; SiemensBAM project team to local businesses and encouraged those that joined to send over information on their business to the Contractor Project Managers for them to follow up.</p>
6.2	<p>For keeping community and interested parties updated on the progression of the projects construction, LA explained that there is a dedicated project website, but that SSEN Transmission would be happy to look into starting a project newsletter that could be sent across to the Community Councils, The Alyth Development Trust and Alyth Voice for publishing wider, if it was felt that would be beneficial.</p>
6.3	<p>AI commented that with the U100 recently widened this may lead to the road becoming a "rat run" and felt it imperative if there was a way if signage could be placed to discourage speeding as well as a sign to show that the road narrows. NM advised that signage would be put up, but speed limit signs couldn't be enforced, the road has speed restrictions in place and it's up to the local Police and Councils to manage this. SSEN Transmission confirmed they would have NM show AI where signage on road will be placed.</p>
7.0	AoB
7.1	<p>LA explained that for future CLG meetings SSEN Transmission would like a CLG member to be appointed as a chair, no members attending the inaugural meeting volunteered so in the interim SSEN Transmission will continue to be the chair of the CLGs.</p>
7.2	<p>SM had submitted questions ahead of the inaugural meeting and DS went to cover these during AoB, but SM explained he was happy to receive responses out with the meeting. LA confirmed she would respond to SM direct.</p>
7.3	<p>ECH raised that there was an issue at the end of Hallyards where a large dip had been created and he had concerns that his waste bins wouldn't be collected by Perth and Kinross Council as they wouldn't be able to get near to them. DS confirmed that NM would look into this when back on site.</p>

8.0	Date of next CLG
11.1	30th June 2021. 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Actions.

Number	Action / Update	Owner	Open/Closed
1.	Confirmation on the height of the buildings to be provided for AI. DS to confirm. <i>Update: The buildings are 13.5m and 10m high.</i>	DS	Closed
2.	DS to confirm for SM how big the site is, in terms that can be understood by the public. <i>Update: The project redline boundary is 15.85 hectares.</i>	DS	Closed
3.	Drawing showing the overall footprint of the substation and associated buildings to be provided for JM.	DS	Open
4.	NM to show AI where signage on road will be placed.	NM	Open
5.	NM to investigate dip at Hallyards.	NM	Open