

 <b>Scottish &amp; Southern</b> Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION	Document reference	30062021
	Revision	FINAL
	Function	Major Projects

<b>Meeting</b>	Alyth Substation - Community Liaison Group
<b>Date</b>	30th June 2021
<b>Time</b>	6.00pm – 8.00pm

#### Alyth Substation CLG Attendees and Apologies:

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

#### Minutes

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introductions and apologies</b>
1.1	LA introduced SSEN Transmission Lead Project Manager AM and explained that Dennis Speirs had now left SSEN Transmission. DL was also introduced to the CLG members.  Apologies from Cllr Sarwar, Provost Melloy, Iain Donaldson and Edward Clayhills-Henderson.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Approval of previous minutes and matters arising</b>
2.1	There were no matters arising and the previous minutes were accepted as a true record of the March meeting. The minutes were proposed by AI and seconded by LS.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Open Actions</b>
3.1	Action 3 - A link to the planning application portal was shared with JM to see all drawings associated with the substation. Action is now closed.
3.2	Action 4 – NM spoken with AI who requested SSEN Transmission speak with Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) to see if the road can be a designated walker and cyclist friendly route which will have full support of the community. This would also designate the route as 40mph maximum.  NM has made an enquiry with Bill Fiske (PKC Road Networks Engineer) and will chase this again when he returns from annual leave in 2 weeks. LS suggested SSEN Transmission copy the local councillors into the correspondence and they can try help also. BE also advised if the Community Councils were copied in too, they would also advocate.
3.3	Action 5 – NM visited Hallyards and the dip has been resolved. Action is now closed.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Project Update</b>

4.1	<p>AM provided the CLG members with an update since the last meeting that both key Contractors (Siemens BAM (SBAM) for the substation and Balfour Beatty (BBPTD) for the overhead line (OHL) works) have progressed with mobilisation to site. SBAM have completed the mandatory archaeological works across the entire site and have now started to install a cap to protect the surface materials, with a 300ml layer of stone.</p> <p>BBPTD have also completed their mobilisation to site located just beside Haughend Farm at the south east corner of the site. They have completed setting up their welfare cabins and works are expected to commence mid-July.</p> <p>All works to date have been carried out in consultation with PKC. We touch base monthly with the Council to ensure they're comfortable we're remaining within the conditions of the planning consent.</p>
4.2	<p>Upcoming works between June to August were then discussed with AM advising SBAM are focusing on the major earth works and the establishment of the base platform for the substation, they have excavated down to a formation platform and will be carrying out more testing for load bearing capability. The installation of any surrounding surface water drainage will also commence.</p> <p>BBPTD will start works to erect the 3 new towers to reconfigure the T-junction. Once the towers are constructed this will mean there will be 3 entries to the substation, one from Kintore, one from Kincardine and one from Tealing.</p>
4.3	<p>Works scheduled for between September to December 2021 will consist of the continuation of ground improvement works. Concrete piling works that are required to stabilise the ground and address the existing poor below ground conditions have been scheduled so as not to clash with either the commercial fruit harvest season and/or the Ospreys, the Osprey chicks are expected to have fledged the Osprey nest by August. The piling works will run potentially up to January/February 2022.</p> <p>Work on the new GIS (Gas Insulated Switchgear) building will start in November 2021 which will overlap with the ground improvement works. Works on the mechanical and electrical element will also progress properly as we move in to the new year and this will be the main focus as we move into and through 2022 with our target date for completion of all construction works being Spring 2023.</p> <p>Regarding the OHL works BBPTD will install towers and then continue with the remainder of the reprofiling works, the reprofiling works are designed to enable the OHL to operate at a higher temperature and it is therefore able to carry more power along the same wires.</p> <p>AI requested NM to visit his property to see where new pylons are going to be placed to see how this changes the present view. NM agreed to contact AI once back from annual leave.</p>
4.4	<p>AI highlighted that it is not just the fruit harvest to be mindful of, there is also the cereal and potato harvest which will run until the end of September. AI commented that with regards to accessing the fields for the future 2023 project which will see the OHL uprated from 275kV to 400kV there are concerns for when this project team currently require access. LA advised she would speak to the EC 400kV land manager and project manager.</p>
4.5	<p>AM presented an overall layout of the substation site for the CLG members and explained that around the perimeter showed the extent of the planting and bunding screens that will be put in place. These are designed to provide a really good visual screen from the road along the north edge and the properties in the immediate vicinity.</p> <p>SSEN Transmission has made a significant start on the screening bunds. The bund that is down the east of the site is located currently at the further most east edge at the moment as that is where the contractors compound is, that bund will be relocated from the easter edge to the final position to make the overall footprint of the site more compact.</p> <p>AM advised that SSEN Transmission would arrange to share the detail on the proposed planting and shrubbery that will be used.</p>
4.6	<p>AM gave a high-level overview of the programme and explained the graphic shown presented the substation works within the top section and the OHL works in the bottom section.</p> <p>The programme shows that by the end of June mobilisation to site for both Contractors is complete. Civil works on the substation will run up to the end of this year when the commencement of the foundations for the GIS building will commence. The substation works are expected to be fully complete by the end of May 2023 when stage 1 commissioning will occur. Once stage 1 commissioning commences there will be no more than 6-8 personnel on site as the project enters the final stage with testing connections and wiring. AM also confirmed that by Spring 2023 most of the traffic, people and activity on site will be complete.</p> <p>The OHL programme shows tower erection from July until November 2021.</p>

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Community Queries</b>
5.1	<p>NM gave an update that the site teams have placed squirrel feeding boxes and bird boxes around the perimeter fence and these are proving to be a big hit with the local creatures, some of the species of birds that have been seen visiting consist of woodpeckers and red kites.</p> <p>The presence of the Ospreys, and the other wildlife at the site, is regarded as a real bonus by the teams working on the project and the protection and care for these animals will remain a priority throughout the delivery of our works.</p> <p>BE made a suggestion that the pictures taken from the site teams of the local wildlife could be used as either holding a competition for the best photo or by collating all the pictures and creating a site calendar as a project memento. SSEN Transmission thought these were excellent recommendations and would look into implementing these.</p> <p>BE also enquired if it would be possible to have a site visit. NM and AM confirmed this would be possible and currently a viewing platform is being worked on, so external visitors can see the site from a safe location. LA to arrange a site visit for all CLG members for early-mid August.</p> <p>AI asked would it be possible for a list to be shared with the CLG members of all the different species of wildlife in the area. NM confirmed he would speak with SBAM Ornithologist Sam and progress this.</p>
5.2	<p>For keeping community and interested parties updated on the progression of the projects construction, LA confirmed that the project team have issued the first project newsletter with the CLG members, Community Councils and other stakeholders signed up for project updates, it has also been shared with The Alyth Voice to be included in the July edition. As works progress on site and further updates are issued out with the publication of the newsletters, LA will ensure communication is shared with the CLG members and wider interested stakeholders.</p>
5.3	<p>At March's meeting LA advised about The SSE '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. 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>NM gave an update that SBAM have also now got members of their team available to carry out similar works and encouraged the CLG members to get in touch with any activities that SBAM could help with. BE advised that Meigle and Ardler Community Council have just completed their Action plan which includes works on core paths and so would come back to us if they could utilise this offer.</p>
5.4	<p><i>Post meeting note: SM advised he would make The Alyth Development Trust aware of the potential for voluntary resource support and they will look at activities in the future where they can give notice for volunteer team members to join in.</i></p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>AoB</b>
6.1	<p>AI asked NM for an update on the flat valve under the culvert. NM confirmed this was resolved and back working. When investigated it was found to be jammed open by mesh and rebar. These were removed and this resolved the problem.</p>
6.2	<p>LA and AM spoke about the potential of having the next meeting in person as long as Government Guidance allowed and asked if any of the CLG members had any suggestions of hotels or other premises where it could be held to let LA know.</p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Date of next CLG</b>
7.1	29th September 2021. 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Actions.

Number	Action / Update	Owner	Open/Closed
3.	<p>Drawing showing the overall footprint of the substation and associated buildings to be provided for JM.</p> <p><i>Update: A link to the planning application portal was shared with JM to see all drawings associated with the substation. Action is now closed.</i></p>	DS	Closed
4.	<p>NM to show AI where signage on road will be placed.</p> <p><i>Update: NM spoken with AI who requested SSEN Transmission speak with Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) to see if the road can be a designated walker and cyclist friendly route which will have full support of the community. This would also designate the route as 40mph maximum</i></p>	NM	Closed
5.	<p>NM to investigate dip at Hallyards.</p> <p><i>Update: NM visited Hallyards and the dip has been resolved.</i></p>	NM	Closed

6.	NM to follow up enquiry with Bill Fiskin (PKC Road Networks Engineer) once returned from annual leave in 2 weeks and copy in local CCs and the local councillors.	NM	Open
7.	NM to visit his AI to see where new pylons are going to be placed to see how this changes the present view.	NM	Open
8.	LA speak to the EC 400kV land manager and project manager regarding AI concerns on access to fields for this future project.	LA	Open
9.	SSEN Transmission to share the detail on the proposed planting and shrubbery that will be used on bunds.	LA/AM	Open
10.	LA to arrange a site visit for all CLG members for early-mid August.	LA	Open
11.	NM to speak with SBAM Ornithologist Sam about obtaining a list of all the different species of wildlife in the area of the site.	NM	Open