



Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

# Alyth Substation

## Frequently Asked Questions





## Who are Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks?

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks is the trading name of Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution Limited, Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc, Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc and Southern Electric Power Distribution plc.

## What is the transmission network?

It's the highest voltage electricity network in the UK – the 'motorway network' of the energy world. It transmits large quantities of electricity over long distances via wires carried on a system of mainly metal towers (pylons) and large substations. Transmission voltages in Scotland are 132kV, 275kV and 400kV. Larger generation schemes usually connect to the Transmission system.

The lower voltage parts of the system are called distribution networks. In Scotland, these local networks operate below 132kV whereas in England the distribution network includes 132kV.

## How are Transmission network upgrades paid for?

Investments in projects are made by SHE Transmission plc. Electricity transmission companies are authorised to recover the costs of such investments through 'use of system' charges which are levied by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc on generators and suppliers of electricity. Suppliers recover their costs from all electricity customers. In order to protect the interests of customers, the transmission companies have to demonstrate to the energy regulator, Ofgem (Office for Gas and Electricity Markets) that proposed investments are necessary, are efficient and are economical so that the charges which are ultimately levied on all electricity customers are justified.

This means SHE Transmission is subject to a funding mechanism established by Parliament and regulated by Ofgem. Cross subsidies between different businesses in the SSE group is not permitted.

## How and to what extent are electricity consumers' interests considered?

SHE Transmission are regulated by the Office for Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem), the regulator responsible for representing consumers' interests. Electricity consumer interests are therefore one of our key drivers and this is enshrined in our statutory duties under the Electricity Act.

In particular we have a statutory duty to develop, maintain and operate an efficient, economic and co-ordinated transmission system. Since the costs of these projects will ultimately be paid for by electricity consumers, we have a responsibility to take cost into account with due weighting in a comparison against other important factors.

## What sort of disruption is to be expected during construction, and how will it be managed?

There is potential for travel disruption during construction, when we take delivery of key plant items or because of increased volumes of traffic on the local road network. Disruption will be minimised and typically controlled through an agreed Traffic Management Plan with Perth and Kinross Council as part of any consent conditions. SHE Transmission aims to ensure that construction traffic uses the roads safely and that any inconvenience to the public is kept to a minimum whilst maintaining a safe environment for the workforce and other road users.

As part of the Environmental Assessments, potential impact from construction noise will be evaluated and mitigation measures instigated where necessary.







## **Does SHE Transmission foresee a potential of flooding and where would any flood water go if flooding was to occur?**

A flood assessment was carried out on the substation site and we don't foresee any flooding. The substation site is out with the 1 in 1000 year flood event zone and the finished platform level has a 2 metre freeboard above the 1 in 1000 year flood event.

## **Will there will be communications with P&K Council, SEPA, local landowners, local residents over maintenance of the river course and any flood barriers that are erected?**

As part of the planning application process, PKC will notify all residential properties within 20m of the application site. In addition, they may choose to consult SEPA on the application and if that happens we shall work with them on any issues raised.

## **Will access on the public road be maintained?**

Yes. Every effort will be made to keep the Haughend Road open during the Public Road Improvement works. Small closures for example to remove the disused railway bridge will be required so local route diversions may be required.

## **Will any repairs to road surfaces due to increased heavy traffic during the construction period be carried out and guaranteed by SHE Transmission?**

SHE Transmission are upgrading the Haughend Road as part of the works and will maintain the road in agreement with the planning condition set by PKC.

## Where will access to the site be?

The substation access will be located at the north west corner of the site.

## How will noise be mitigated/controlled during construction works?

As part of the planning process we will agree construction operational working hours with Perth and Kinross Council. Construction works will only take place during these agreed hours and in planning the works, our contractors will look to minimise the impact of construction noise on neighbours and the public.

## How do I have my say?

SHE Transmission expect to submit their planning application for the substation under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1990 and for the overhead line (OHL) tie-ins via a Section 37 application under the Electricity Act to The Scottish Ministers in October 2019. The applications will be advertised and opportunities for representations will be available at that time.

SHE Transmission will continue consulting with the Scottish Government Local Energy and Consents Unit, Perth and Kinross Council and other key statutory bodies as well as the local community prior to submitting a formal application.





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