

# North Argyll Project Overview

The aim of the project is to reinforce the existing transmission network in the region to enable generation projects to connect to the electricity network and to maintain security of supply. The main elements of the project are as follows:

- Construction of a new 275/132kV substation (North Argyll) in close proximity to the existing Inveraray to Taynuilt 132kV overhead line;
- Construction of a new 275kV overhead line between the proposed North Argyll substation and the existing Dalmally substation.
- The existing 132kV overhead line from Inveraray will connect to the proposed North Argyll substation; and
- Previously, we have consulted on proposals to re-conductor/rebuild the existing 132kv overhead line between the proposed new substation and Taynuilt. This project element is currently undergoing review.



### October 2016 Consultation

SSEN last publicly consulted on the North Argyll project in late 2016. During these consultation events the following information specific to Dalmally and the new 275kV line was provided:

Overhead line tower design.

Details on the heights of the towers (to vary between 40 – 55 metres), the span between the towers (300m to 350m) and an illustration of what the proposed towers would look like.

Maps indicating the preferred route.

A 500m wide preferred route was highlighted, alongside other routes that had been considered during the routing process.

Information regarding cabling constraints



### **Feedback**

At the October 2016 consultation events:

- 33 community members registered attendance across the 4 events (11 at the Dalmally events)
- 15 feedback forms were received (6 from Dalmally residents)

Alongside face to face feedback at the events themselves and forms received, further feedback was received post-events in the form of emails and telephone calls.

Feedback received in Dalmally specifically indicated a general objection to the project in the area. Community members cited concerns regarding proximity to residential properties, visual impact and the proximity of the project to the existing Scottish Power transmission line. There were requests that the line be undergrounded in Dalmally due to these concerns.

During analysis and review of all feedback received during the consultation process (including the March 2016 consultations) a decision was made to carry out an investigation into potential underground cabling route options around Dalmally.



Cable Feasibility Study





#### Route A1

This underground cable route would follow the A85 road for a significant length, before crossing the River Orchy and then connecting into Dalmally substation. The route is constrained by the following:

- Crossing of River Orchy, A85 and railway
- Pinch points along the road
- Road closure/traffic management
- HDD's (Horizontal Directional Drill) required
- Repairs/future maintenance
- Sealing End Compound.

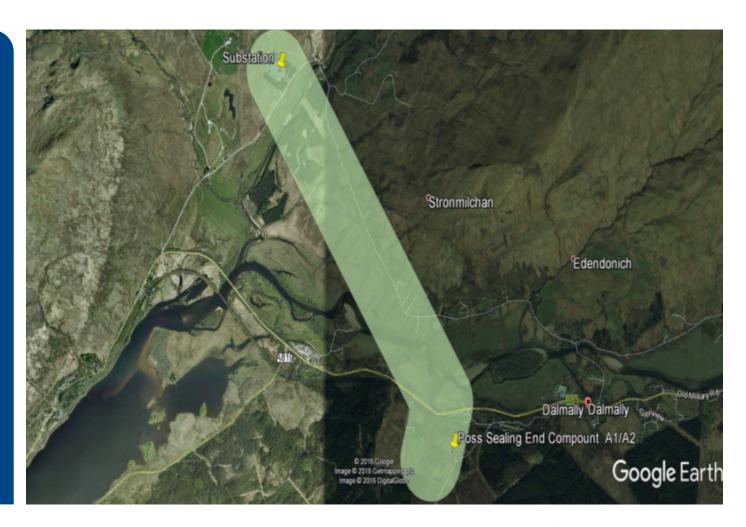




#### Route A2

This underground cable route would cross under the A85 and River Orchy before heading North across the front of Stronmilchan, and then connecting into Dalmally substation. The route is constrained by the following:

- Crossing of River Orchy, A85 and railway
- Challenging ground conditions
- HDD's required
- Road improvements and temporary haul road required
- Sealing End Compound.

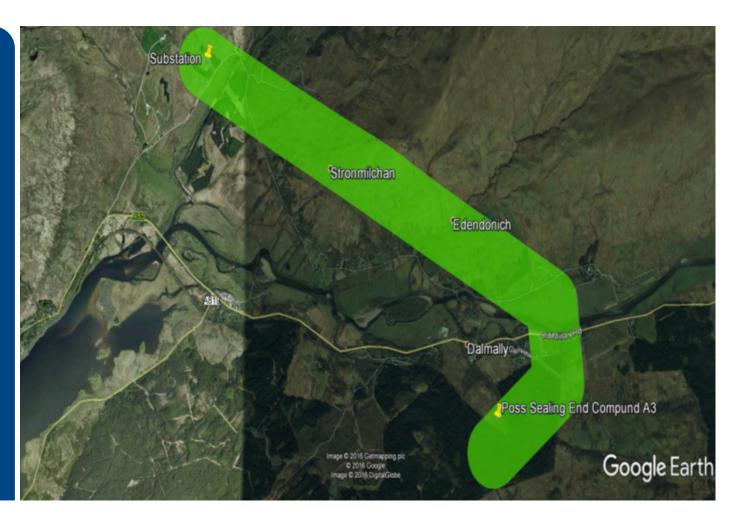




#### Route A3

This underground cable route runs around the rear of Stronmilchan and near to the existing OHL route. The route is constrained by the following:

- Crossing of River Orchy, A85 and railway
- Challenging geology and topography
- HDD's required
- Road improvements and temporary haul road required
- Sealing End Compound.





### **Next Stage**

There are constraints on all routes resulting in no clear preferred underground cable engineering solution.

To enable selection of a preferred underground cable route, the following works would be required:

- Geotechnical and Ground Investigation works (e.g. bore holes, trial pits, water monitoring, etc.)
- Engage a HDD specialist
- Discussions with National Rail to understand what their requirements would be for crossing under the railway (e.g. ground monitoring).
- Discussions with Transport Scotland to understand what their requirements are (e.g. road closures, traffic management)



## What happens next?

During the next consultation events we will be actively encouraging as many community members as possible to submit feedback.

Feedback in any form is welcomed at any stage, however we use feedback forms during and after consultation events to assist with analysis.

Once forms have been received, the project team hold a meeting to discuss. Trends are identified and concerns addressed.

Please make all feedback as specific as possible. If you support the alignment and/or the preferred technology that will be shown at the events please tell us why you are amenable to it. If you have objections, please tell us in detail specifically what those objections are. The more detail we have, the easier it is to consider the feedback effectively.

We intend to reschedule the consultation events for the near future and will ensure to inform the community in advance or the rescheduled dates.



