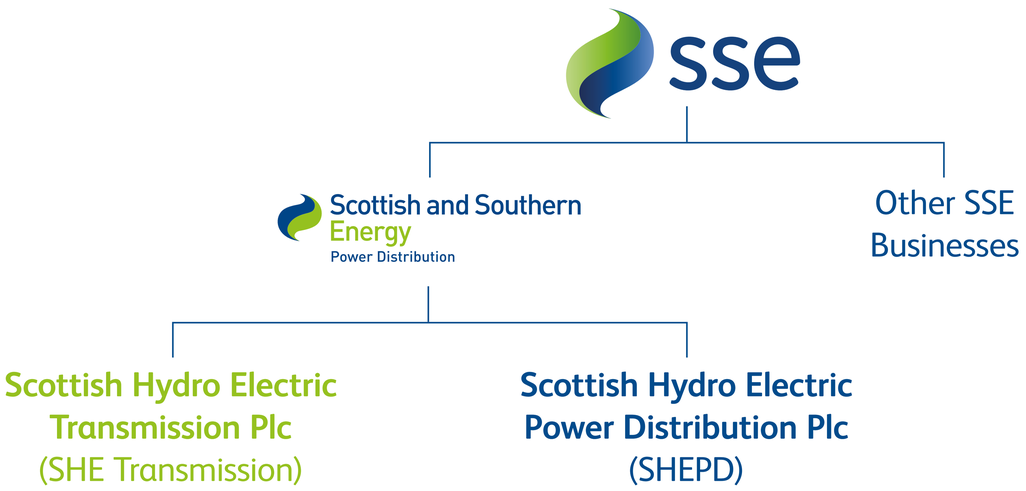
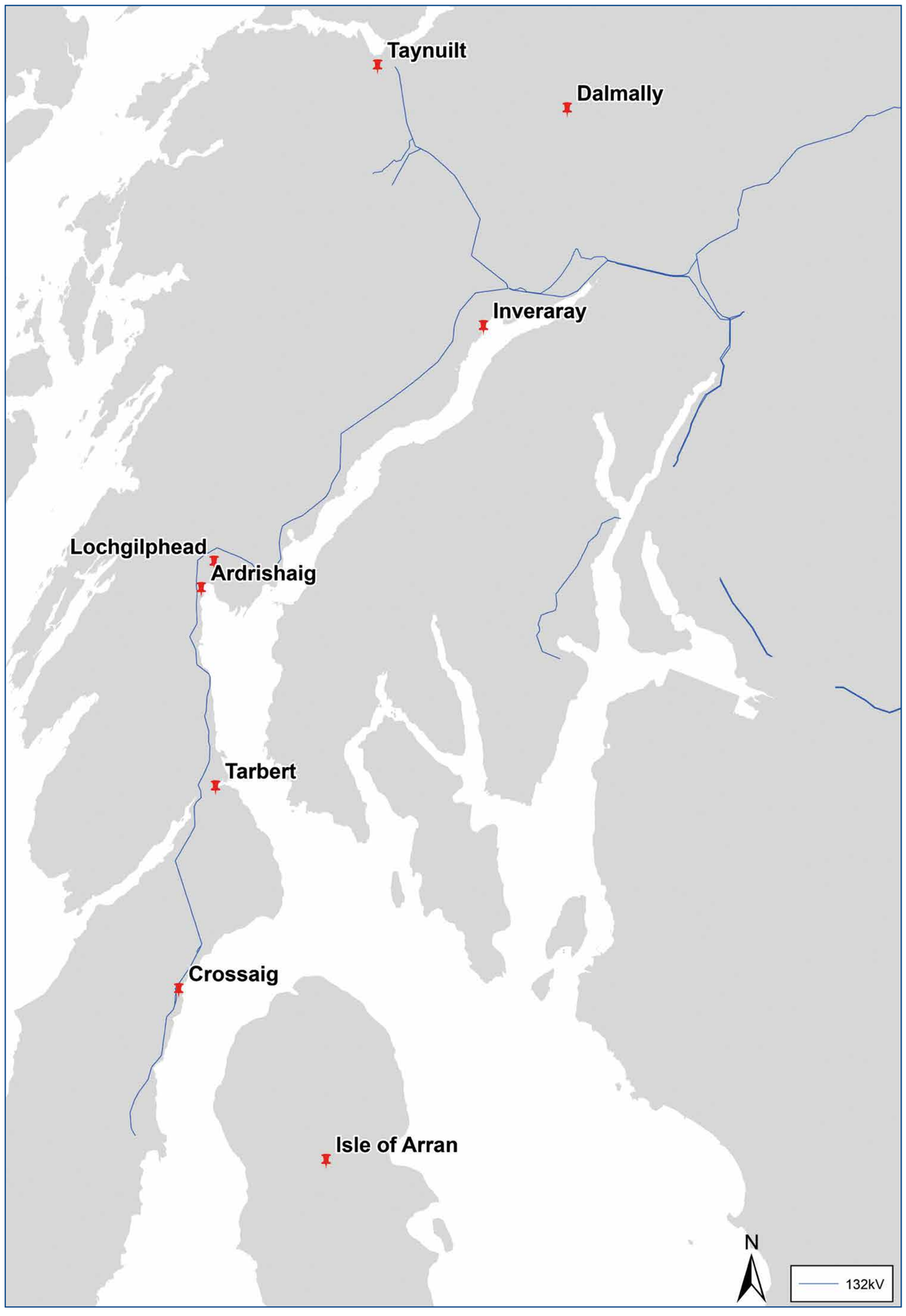
Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc

Who we are



SHE Transmission is the owner of the electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland. It holds a licence under the Electricity Act 1989 and in terms of that licence has obligations to maintain the existing network to ensure that the lights stay on and invest in the network to provide the infrastructure needed to allow generation developments to connect to it.

The transmission network gathers energy from power stations, hydro-electric generation schemes and wind farms and carries it to areas where it is to be used. We work with the Transmission System Operator, National Grid, who is responsible for operating the transmission network across the whole of Great Britain, to make sure that power flows smoothly and reliably across our network.



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Project Overview: North Argyll Reinforcements

The aim of the project is to reinforce the existing transmission network in the region to enable renewable energy projects to connect to the electricity network, and to ensure 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;
- Upgrade of the existing 132kV overhead line between Taynuilt and the proposed North Argyll substation. This upgrade will be achieved by either replacement conductor or a new overhead line;
- If a new overhead line is constructed between North Argyll and Taynuilt, the existing overhead line will be decommissioned and removed;
- The existing 132kV overhead line from Inveraray will connect to the proposed North Argyll substation; and
- Construction of a new 275kV overhead line between the proposed North Argyll substation and the existing Dalmally substation.

Project Timeline

This project is currently at a very early stage in the development process and timescales are indicative at this stage.

2016 — Complete feasibility design

2017
- Progress Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the new overhead line
- Contract tendering and procurement
- Land wayleaves agreements progressed
- Submit planning application

2018 — Consent decision anticipated

2019 — Construction start

2020/ 2021 — Phased completion and commissioning

Consultation on the Initial Route Corridor

Scottish Hydro Electric (SHE) Transmission is presenting initial proposals for reinforcement of the transmission network in North Argyll. The project is required to enable new generation to connect to the transmission network and to reinforce the network serving the Kintyre peninsula. We are currently carrying out studies of the indicated search areas to ensure that any proposed route corridor takes into account environmental factors whilst also being technically and economically efficient.

Consultation on the Proposed Substation

The 132kV and 275kV lines will require to connect to the existing network and that will necessitate the construction of a new substation. We are seeking feedback in relation to the substation study area shown on the plans.

All comments and feedback received during the consultation will be reviewed and used by the project team to help refine proposals ahead of presenting a preferred design later in 2016. The closing date for comments on information presented at this exhibition is **30th April 2016**.

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North Argyll Substation Site Options

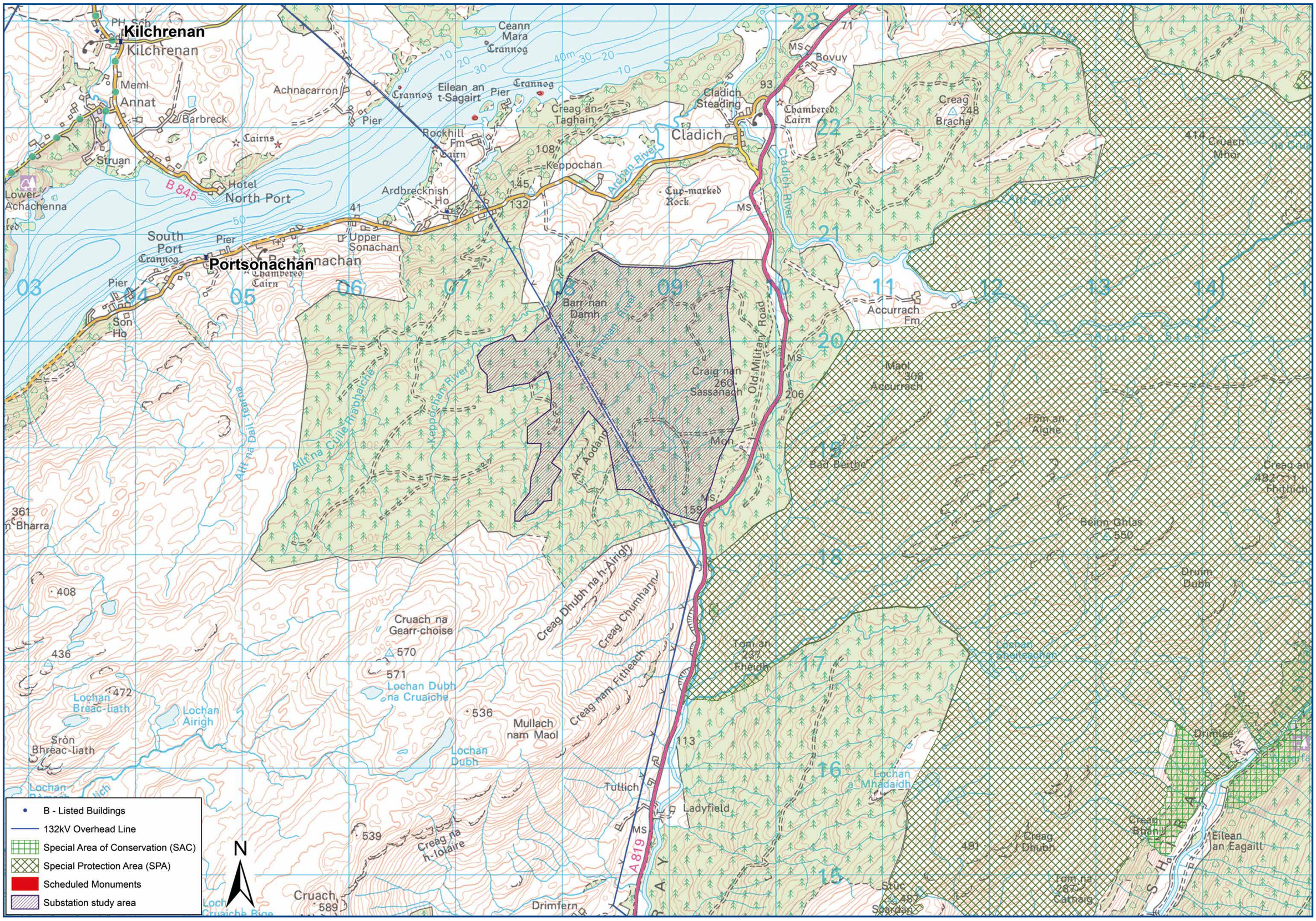
The aim of the project is to reinforce the transmission network to enable the connection of generation; provide an increase in the import capacity and to reinforce the existing electrical network in the area. The main element of the project is the construction of a new 275/132kV substation (North Argyll) in close proximity to the existing Inveraray to Taynuilt 132kV overhead line;

The substation study area is focussed on land south of Loch Awe, near Ardbrecknish, and adjacent to the A819. The proposed new substation is required to convert voltage from 132kV to 275kV and then export electricity to the National Grid.

We have identified the substation study area following early analysis of technical, environmental and geographical factors and we will develop our proposals taking account of the outcome of these investigations.

We are keen to receive feedback from the local community and other interested parties on our proposals. Please also take the time at the event to speak to members of our project team, who are here to answer any questions you may have and explain the information presented on the boards. Please complete a comments form and pass it to a member of the team.

All comments and feedback received during the consultation will be reviewed and used by the project team to help refined proposals ahead of the future engagement.



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North Argyll to Taynuilt Overhead Line Replacement

The aim of the project is to reinforce the transmission network to enable the connection of generation. The main elements of the project are as follows:

- Upgrade of the existing 132kV overhead line between Taynuilt and the proposed North Argyll substation. This upgrade will be achieved by either replacement conductor or a new overhead line;
- The existing 132kV overhead line from Inveraray will connect to the proposed North Argyll substation;
- If a new overhead line is constructed between North Argyll and Taynuilt the existing overhead line will be decommissioned and removed; and
- The replacement towers will be approximately 25 metres high, at approximately 200–250 metre spans. Any replacement line may require a new crossing of Loch Awe, to replace the existing line crossing.

We have identified the Taynuilt to North Argyll overhead line search area for investigation following early analysis of technical, environmental and geographical factors.

The project team will aim to develop the project to achieve an efficient and economic proposal.

We are keen to receive feedback from the local community and other interested parties on our proposals. Please also take the time at the event to speak to members of our project team, who are here to answer any questions you may have and explain the information presented on the boards. Please complete a comments form and pass it to a member of the team.

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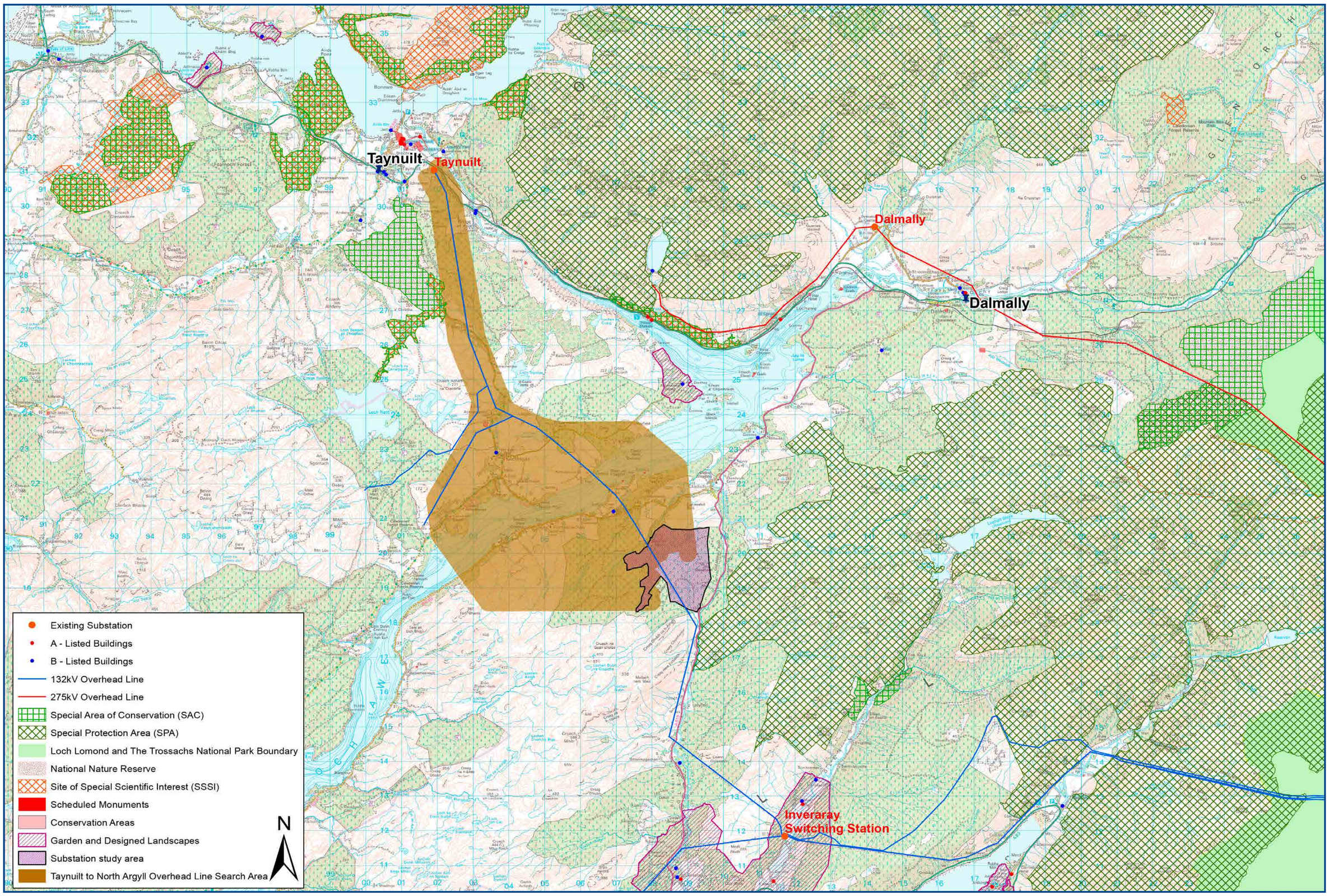

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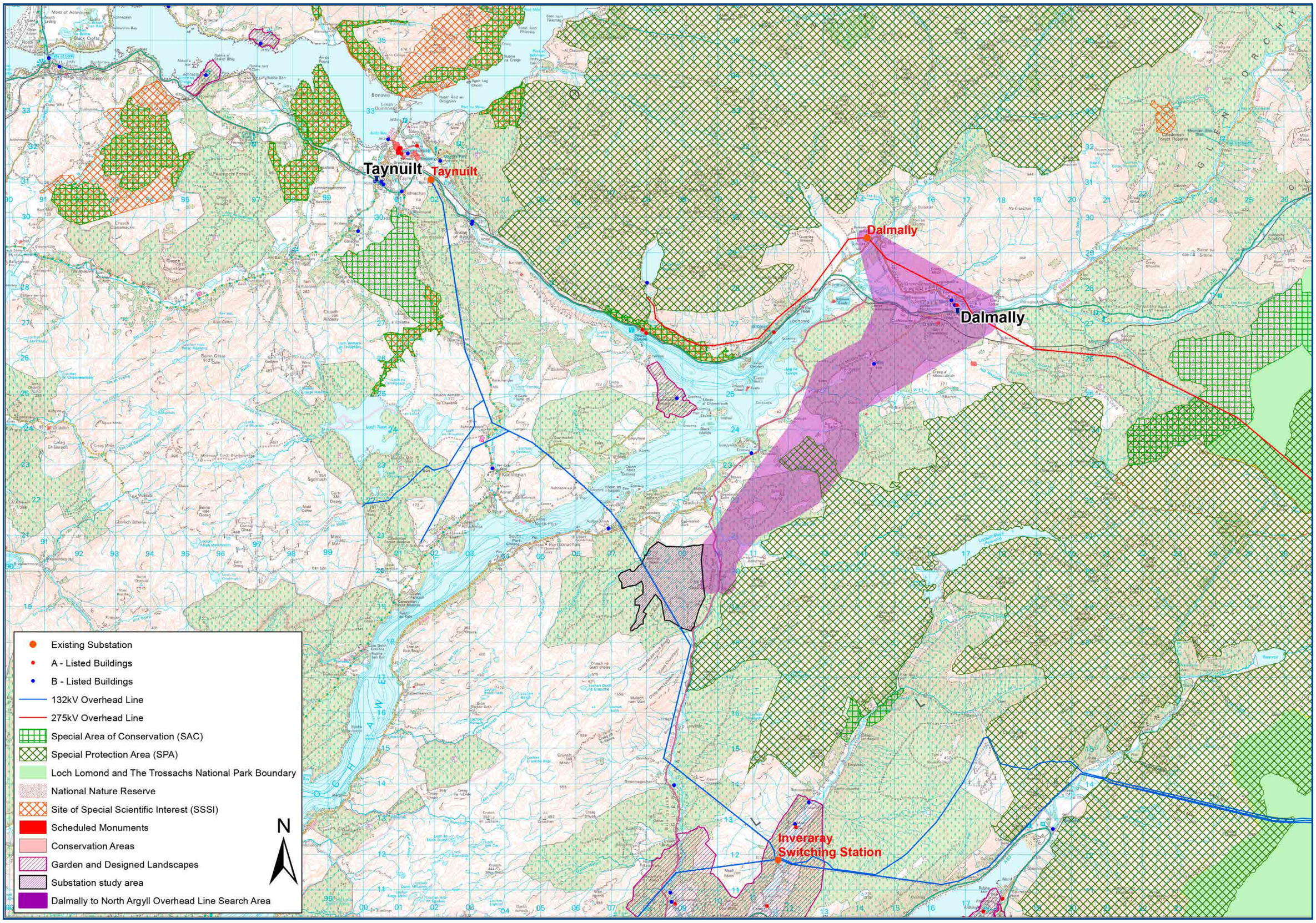
Proposed Overhead Line Connection between North Argyll and Dalmally Substation

The aim of the project is to develop a 275kV overhead line between the proposed North Argyll substation and the existing Dalmally substation. The proposed connection would require approximately 12 kilometres of 275kV overhead line with towers of approximately 46 metres high and spans between 250–350 metres.

The new 275kV overhead line between North Argyll substation and Dalmally will facilitate the export of generation in North Argyll and Kintyre to the National Grid. We have identified the Dalmally to North Argyll 275kV search area for analysis.



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Environmental Constraints

ASH Design + Assessment has been commissioned by SHE Transmission to carry out route options appraisals for both overhead line projects to identify a preferred route corridor; and to carry out a substation site selection assessment to identify a preferred substation location for the new grid connection.

The overall objective throughout the consideration of alternatives will be to identify an efficient, economic and co-ordinated solution, taking full consideration of all environmental factors to minimise any potential adverse impacts on the environment.

A desk-based exercise was undertaken for each component to establish potential environmental constraints within the study areas.

Designated Sites and Planning Constraints

The following designated sites are included in the ongoing environmental assessment of the potential effects of the project:

North Argyll Substation to Dalmally Substation

- Special Protection Area (SPA) – Glen Etive and Glen Fyne
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – Loch Etive Woods
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Coille Leitire
- Gardens and Designed Landscapes (GDL) – Ardanaiseig House
- Area of Panoramic Quality (APQ) – North Argyll
- Wild Land Area (WLA) – Loch Etive Mountains; Ben Lui

North Argyll Substation to Taynuilt Substation

- Special Protection Area (SPA) – Glen Etive and Glen Fyne
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – Loch Etive Woods; Glen Shira
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Coille Leitire; Barran Dubh; Bonawe to Cadderlie; Kennacraig and Esragan Burn; Airds Park and Coilie Nathais; Glen Nant
- Gardens and Designed Landscapes (GDL) – Ardanaiseig House
- Area of Panoramic Quality (APQ) – North Argyll
- Wild Land Area (WLA) – Loch Etive Mountains
- National Nature Reserve (NNR) – Glen Nant

Cultural Heritage

North Argyll Substation to Dalmally Substation

- Scheduled Monuments – 26; Listed Buildings – 17

North Argyll Substation to Taynuilt Substation

- Scheduled Monuments – 29; Listed Buildings – 33

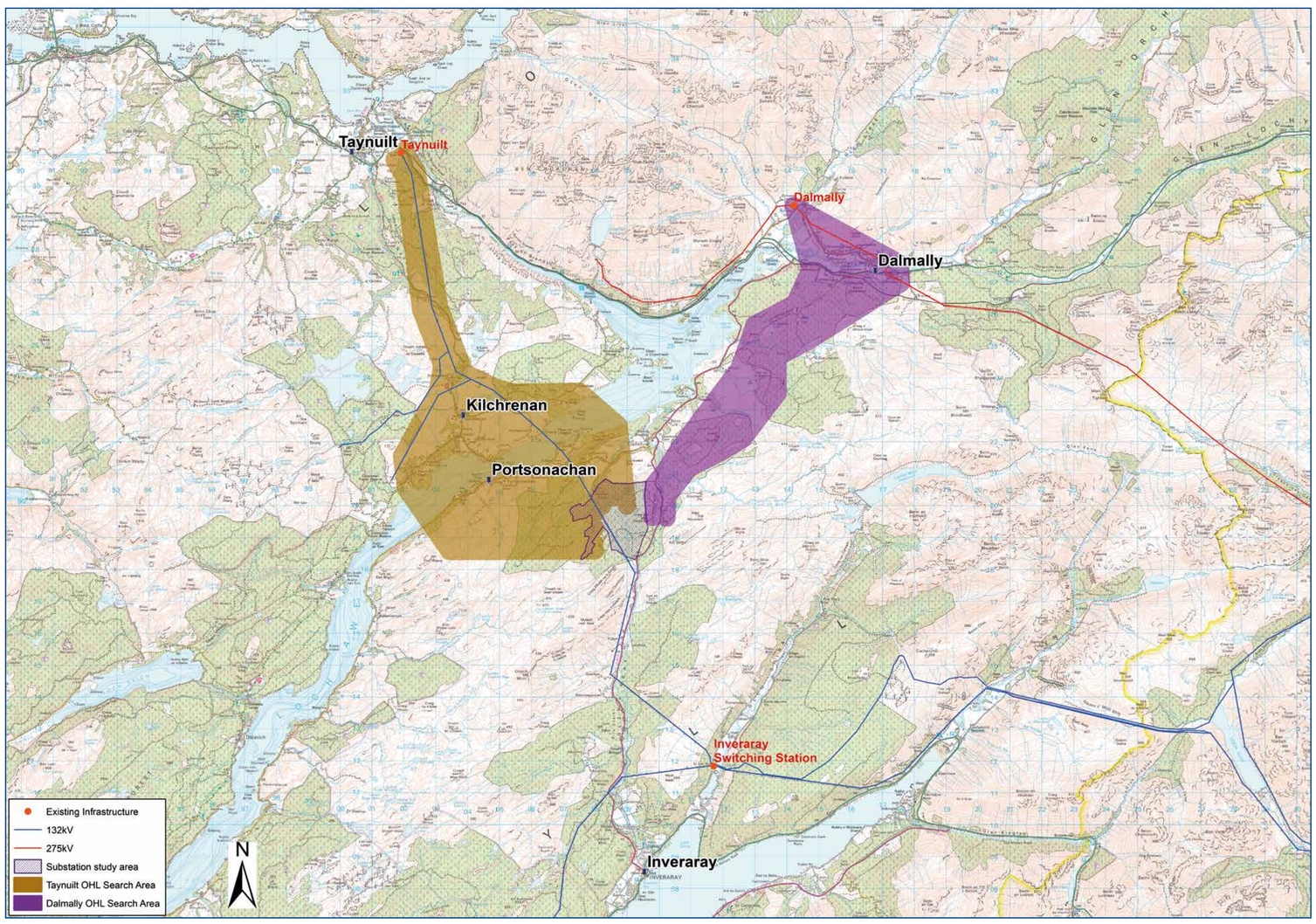
Visual Receptors

North Argyll Substation to Dalmally Substation

- Settlements – Dalmally; Loch Awe; Cladich; Ardbrecknish
- Roads – A85; A819; B840; B8077
- Viewpoints – Kilchurn Castle; Duncan Ban MacIntyre Memorial; Duncan McLaren monument; Neil Munro monument; Stob Diamh; Ben a' Bhùiridh;

North Argyll Substation to Taynuilt Substation

- Settlements – Taynuilt; Pass of Brander; Bridge of Awe; Kilchrenan; Cladich; Portsonachan
- Roads – A85; A819; B840; B845
- Viewpoints – Neil Munro Monument; Ben Cruachan; Ardanaiseig House and Grounds



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