Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Report on Consultation - Route Selection

Project: LT313 Earraghail Wind Farm OHL Connection

Date: January 2023

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Rev								
01	Prepared By	BMM/NT	Checked By	NT/RD	Approved By	RM	Date of Issue	26/10/2022
02	Prepared By	BMM	Checked By	NT	Approved By	RM	Date of Issue	16/12/2022
03	Prepared By	BMM	Checked By	NT	Approved By	RM	Date of Issue	12/01/2023

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GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Alignment	A centre line of an overhead line OHL, along with location of key angle structures.
Amenity	The natural environment, cultural heritage, landscape and visual quality. Also includes the impact of SHE Transmission's works on communities, such as the effects of noise and disturbance from construction activities.
Conductor	A metallic wire strung from structure to structure, to carry electric current.
Consultation	The dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups, based on a genuine exchange of views and, normally, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programmes of action.
Corridor	A linear area which allows a continuous connection between the defined connection points. The corridor may vary in width along its length; in unconstrained areas it may be many kilometres wide.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	Environmental Impact Assessment. A formal process codified by EU directive 2011/92/EU, and subsequently amended by Directive 2014/52/EU. The national regulations are set out in The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. The EIA process is set out in Regulation 4(1) of the regulations and includes the preparation of an EIA Report by the developer to systematically identify, predict, assess and report on the likely significant environmental impacts of a proposed project or development.
Habitat	Term most accurately meaning the place in which a species lives, but also used to describe plant communities or agglomerations of plant communities.
Kilovolt (kV)	One thousand volts.
Mitigation	Term used to indicate avoidance, remediation or alleviation of adverse impacts.
Overhead line (OHL)	An electric line installed above ground, usually supported by lattice steel towers or poles.
Riparian Woodland	Natural home for plants and animals occurring in a thin strip of land bordering a stream or river.
Route	A linear area of approximately 1 km width (although this may be narrower/wider in specific locations in response to identified pinch points / constraints), which provides a continuous connection between defined connection points.
Routeing	The work undertaken which leads to the selection of a proposed alignment, capable of being taken forward into the consenting process under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.
Scheduled Monument	A monument which has been scheduled by the Scottish Ministers as being of national importance under the terms of the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979'.
Semi-natural Woodland	Woodland that does not obviously originate from planting. The distribution of species will generally reflect the variations in the site and the soil. Planted trees must account for less than 30% of the canopy composition
Span	The section of overhead line between two structures.
Stakeholders	Organisations and individuals who can affect or are affected by SHE Transmission works.
Study Area	The area within which the corridor, route and alignment study takes place.
Wild Land Area (WLA)	Those areas comprising the greatest and most extensive areas of wild characteristics within Scotland.

PREFACE

This Report on Consultation has been prepared by WSP UK Ltd. on behalf of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission) to provide a summary of the responses received from key stakeholders (including statutory and non-statutory consultees, local communities, landowners and individual residents) throughout the proposals to date. A Consultation Document[1] was published in August 2022 which sought comments on the proposals, the approach to route selection, the analysis of Route Options and the identification of a Preferred Route.

This Report on Consultation describes how the feedback from consultation has informed the identification of the Proposed Routes. Once confirmed, the Proposed Route is then taken forward for the subsequent detailed design stages of the project.

Two face-to-face public consultation events were held between 2pm to 7pm on Tuesday 23rd August 2022 at Campbelltown Town Hall, PA28 6AB and 2pm to 7pm on Wednesday 24th August 2022 at Whitehouse Village Hall, Tarbert, PA29 6XR.

To continue engagement on the project SSEN Transmission has developed an online consultation tool, to enable the local community to experience the full event from home on a computer, tablet or mobile device. The online event has been designed to look and feel like a real consultation in a community hall, with exhibition boards, maps, interactive videos and the opportunity to share views on the proposals.

Visitors were able to engage directly with the project team, via a live chat function, where they could ask any questions they might have about the project and share their feedback on the current proposals.

A virtual consultation event took place via the project website:

https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project/ at the following time:

- 25th August 2022; 5pm – 7pm

This Report on Consultation provides a summary of how SSEN Transmission has responded to comments received by key stakeholders on the Preferred Route and details the actions that will be taken as the proposals progress through to the alignment stage.

[1] SSEN Transmission plc (August 2022) Earraghail Wind Farm 275 kV OHL Connection Route Selection Consultation Document.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scottish and Southern Electricity Network Transmission is proposing to construct a new 275 kilovolt double circuit overhead line supported on steel lattice towers between the Earraghail Wind Farm Substation and a Loop In Loop Out (LILO) connection into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275 kilovolt overhead line.

The developer of Earraghail Wind Farm has submitted an application to the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for a 105 megawatt Wind Farm and has a contracted connection date of November 2028. Under the terms of their license, Scottish and Southern Electricity Network Transmission is therefore obliged to connect the developer to the transmission network by the contracted connection date.

Route Options were identified, which provided feasible areas for the overhead line to be developed, and from which a Preferred Route has been selected that provides an optimum balance of environmental, engineering and economic factors.

This Report on Consultation documents the consultation process which has been undertaken for the project between August and September 2022. The programme of consultation was designed to engage with stakeholders including statutory and non-statutory consultees, local communities, landowners and individual residents in order to invite feedback on the rationale for, and approach to, the selection of the Preferred Route.

This report describes the key responses received and provides detail on the actions proposed in response to the issues raised. The consultation process has confirmed that Route Option 1B should be taken forward as the Proposed Route, within which further study will seek to identify alignment options. It is recognised that the Preferred Route runs through sensitive environments. However, the Preferred Route has been selected on the basis that it is considered to provide an optimum balance of environmental, engineering and economic factors, and will become the Proposed Route taken forward to the alignment stage.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Document

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (hereafter referred to as 'SSEN Transmission') is proposing to construct a new 275 kilovolt (kV) double circuit overhead line (OHL) supported on steel lattice towers between the Earraghail Wind Farm Substation and the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275 KV OHL (as shown in **Plate 1.1**), via a Loop in Loop Out (LILO) connection.

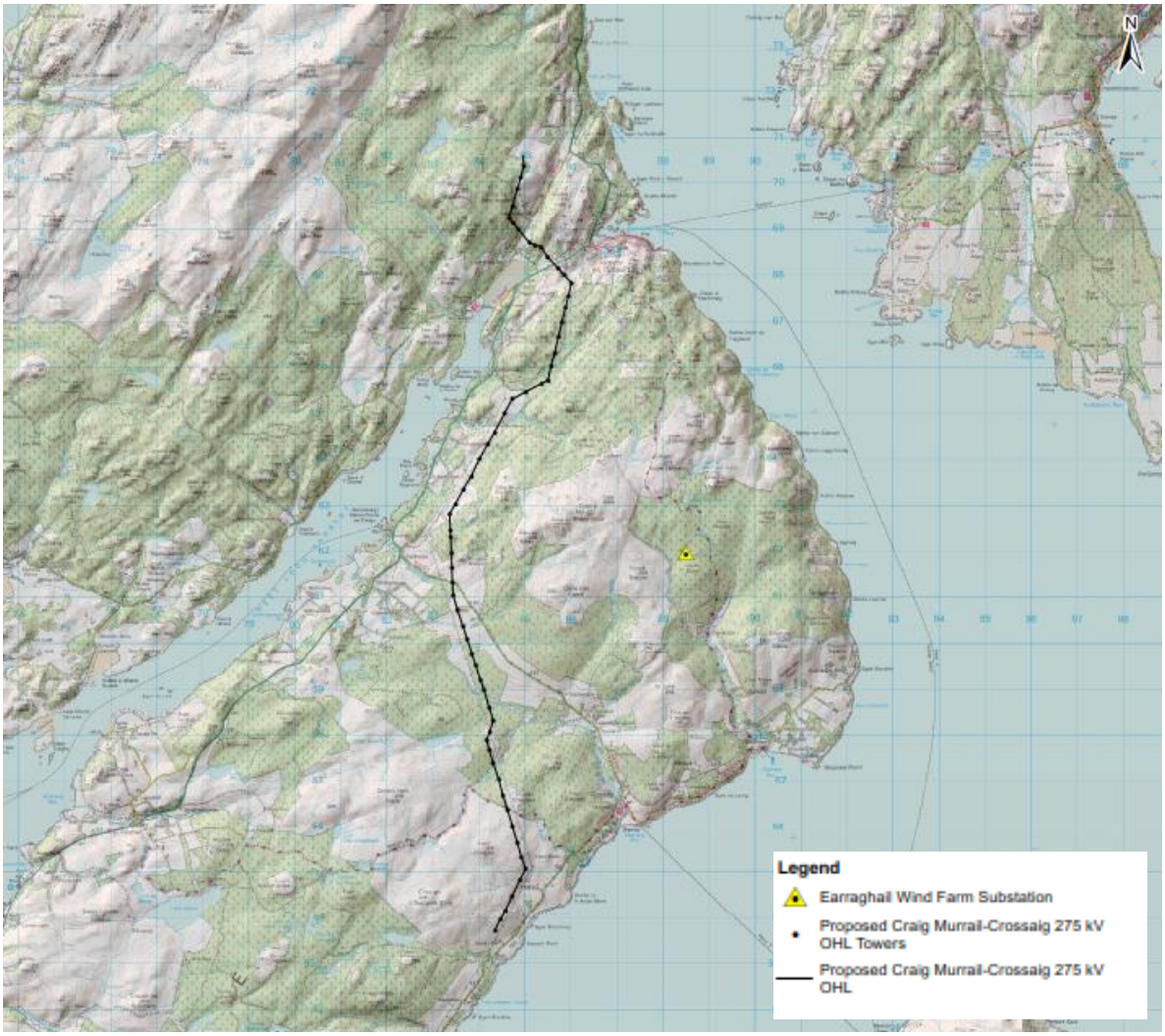

Plate 1.1: Site Location

This Report on Consultation documents the consultation process for the project between August and September 2022, during the route option stage of the project. The programme of consultation was designed to engage with key stakeholders including statutory and non-statutory consultees, local communities, landowners and individual residents in order to invite feedback on the rationale for and approach to, the selection of the Preferred Route[2].

This Report describes the key responses received and details the actions taken in response to the issues raised.

1.2 Document Structure

This Report on Consultation is structured as follows:

1) Introduction – setting out the purpose of the Report on Consultation;

[2] Identified within the LT313 Earraghail Wind Farm OHL Connection (August 2022), produced by SSEN Transmission.

2) Project Overview – outlines the background to the project and provides a description of the key elements;

3) Consideration of Route Options – describes how the Preferred Route was identified;

4) The Consultation Process – describes the framework for consultation and methods which have been employed;

5) Stakeholder Consultation Responses and key issues – summarises the range of responses and key comments arising from the public consultation and documents the statutory and non-statutory consultees whom responses through the consultation process;

6) SSEN Transmission Responses to Consultation – describes how the comments and issues raised by statutory and non-statutory consultees during consultation will be addressed; and

7) Conclusions and Next Steps – provides a summary of the conclusions reached and actions going forward.

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

2.1 The Need for the Project

SSEN Transmission is a wholly owned subsidiary of the SSE plc Group of companies. SSEN Transmission holds a license under the Electricity Act 1989 for the transmission of electricity in the north of Scotland and has a statutory duty under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 to '*develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical electricity transmission system in its licensed areas'.*

The developer of Earraghail Wind Farm has submitted an application to the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for a 105 megawatt (MW) Wind Farm and has a contracted connection date of November 2028. Under the terms of their license, SSEN Transmission is therefore obliged to connect the developer to the transmission network by the contracted connection date.

2.2 Alternative Options and Preferred Technology Solution

Two system options were assessed to facilitate this connection, a LILO connection directly into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275 kV OHL and a direct connection into the existing Crossaig 132 kV Substation.

Option 2 (connection to the existing Crossaig 132 kV Substation) was discounted due to the high cost associated with the works in comparison to option 1, considering the preferred technologies and route lengths needed to facilitate each option. As such, option 1 was progressed to detailed analysis.

2.3 Proposals Overview

SSEN Transmission is proposing to construct a new double circuit 275 kV OHL supported on steel lattice towers between the Earraghail Wind Farm Substation and the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275 kV OHL.

For the purposes of this report, it is assumed that the Proposed Development would comprise steel lattice towers from the L8 tower suite. Generally, the height, including extensions, for the L8 tower suite is approximately 46 m. The selection of the supports suitable for the OHL are being considered separately to the OHL routeing process.

The final designation of support type is generally dependent on three main factors: altitude, weather and the topography of the route. The size of supports and span lengths will also vary depending on these factors, with supports being closer together at high altitudes to withstand the effects of greater exposure to high winds, ice and other weather events. The support configuration, height and the distance between supports will therefore only be fully determined after a detailed alignment survey.

The proposed steel lattice towers will support six conductors (wires) on six cross-arms (three on each side) and an earth wire between the peaks, typical designs can be seen in **Plate 2.1**.

2.4 Access During Construction

2.4.1 Construction Activities

Construction activities are anticipated to consist of six phases, as follows:

- Alterations to the existing transmission and distribution networks;
- Enabling work (forestry clearance and establishment of temporary construction compound(s);
- Erection of towers;
- Conductor stringing (including construction of temporary scaffolding);
- Inspections and OHL commissioning; and
- Removal of temporary works and site reinstatement.

An indicative programme can be found in **Section 2.4.3** below.

All construction activities will be undertaken in accordance with a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which will define specific methods for environmental survey, monitoring and management throughout construction. A CEMP will be produced by the Principal Contractor and agreed with statutory consultees prior to the commencement of construction.

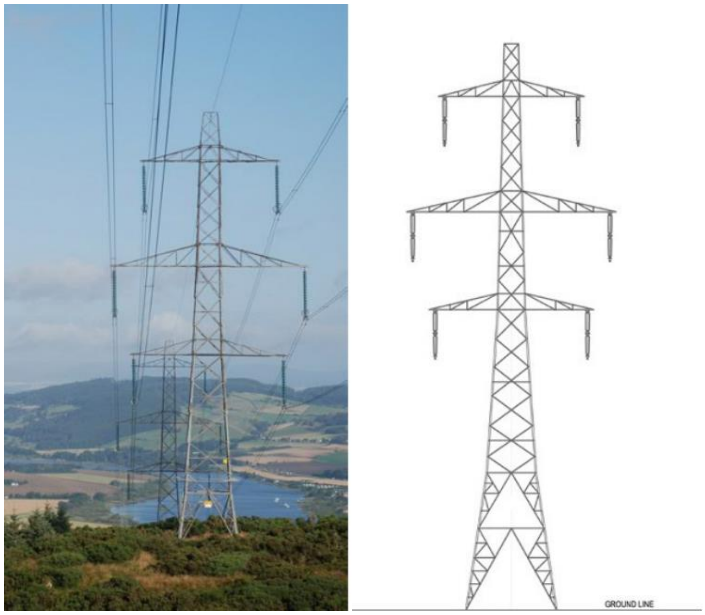

Plate 2.1 – Typical L8 steel lattice tower design

2.4.2 Access during Construction

Vehicle access is required to each support structure location during construction to allow excavation and creation of foundations and erection of the support structure. Existing tracks would be used where possible and upgraded as required. Preference will be given to lower impact access solutions including the use of low pressure tracked personnel vehicles and temporary track solutions in boggy / soft ground areas to reduce any damage to, and compaction of, the ground. These journeys would be kept to a minimum to minimise disruption to habitats along the route. Temporary access panel solutions may also be used to protect the ground, however, temporary stone tracks are likely to be necessary in some areas depending on existing access conditions, terrain and altitude. Helicopters may also be used to reduce access track requirements.

Access requirements for the Proposed Development will be dependent upon the type of OHL supports chosen. Consideration of impacts will be undertaken at the alignment stage once the support type has been confirmed. A more detailed plan for access during construction will be prepared once a Proposed Alignment has been identified and the type of support structure has been selected.

2.4.3 Indicative Programme

It is anticipated that construction of the Proposed Development would take place over an 18 – 22 month period, following the granting of consents, although a detailed programming of works would be the responsibility of the Principal Contractor in agreement with SSEN Transmission.

Construction is estimated to start in 2026.

3. CONSIDERATION OF ROUTE OPTIONS

3.1 Introduction

The Consultation Document[3] sets out the approach to the consideration and appraisal of route options, in line with SSEN's routeing guidance[4]. The guidance sets out SSEN Transmissions plc's approach to selecting a route for an OHL.

In line with the principles outlined in the guidance document, the method of identifying a Preferred Route has involved the following four key tasks:

- Identification of the baseline situation;
- Identification of alternative Route Options;
- Environmental, engineering and economic analysis of Route Options; and
- Identification of a Preferred Route.

3.2 Identification of a Preferred Route

The Preferred Route has been selected on the basis that it is considered to provide an optimum balance of environmental, engineering and economic factors. The Preferred Route is shown in **Plate 3.1**.

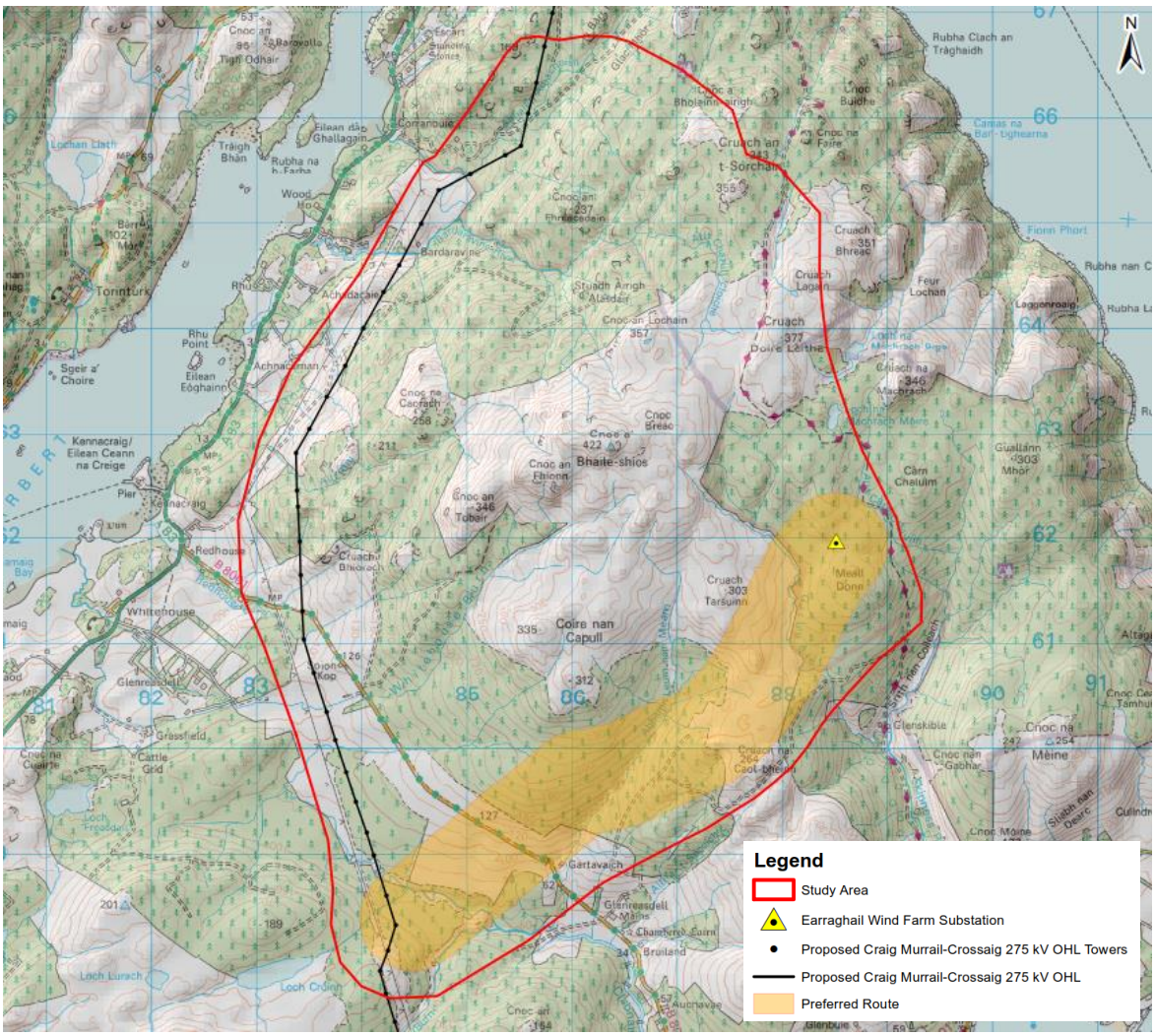

Plate 3.1 – Preferred Route

[3] SSEN Transmission plc (August 2022) Earraghail 275 kV OHL Connection Consultation Document.

[4] SSEN Transmission (September 2020), Procedures for Routeing Overhead Lines and Underground Cables of 132 kV and above.

During the alignment selection stage of the project, alignment options within the Preferred Route will be carefully considered to achieve an acceptable alignment which seeks to minimise environmental effects. Confirmation of the Preferred Alignment will be informed by further consultation exercises, and through detailed surveys which may identify any additional and / or currently unknown engineering, environmental or land use constraints. Should further site and desk-based analysis at the alignment selection stage identify a particular constraint, a further review of route or alignment options may be required prior to the identification of a Preferred Alignment.

4. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.1 Introduction

In accordance with the SSEN Transmission guidance a process of consultation on the Preferred Route option was implemented. This was done in conjunction with the route consultation for the Tangy IV OHL Connection project of which a separate Report on Consultation has been prepared for this project. This section identifies the methods of consultation and the key dates when consultation took place.

4.2 Methods of Consultation

The following methods were used to consult on the Preferred Route, as set out below.

4.2.1 Consultation Document

The Earraghail 275 kV OHL Route Consultation Document (August 2022) was produced detailing the selection process for the Preferred Route, taking account of environmental, engineering and economic factors. The Consultation Document was made available for download in August 2022 from https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project/.

Table 4.1 details the statutory and non-statutory consultees in receipt of the Consultation Document or otherwise informed of the website details:

Table 4-1: List of Statutory and Non-Statutory Consultees

Statutory Consultees	
Argyll and Bute Council	Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
NatureScot	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Scottish Forestry	Transport Scotland
Non-Statutory Consultees	
Argyll Fisheries Trust	Argyll District Salmon Fisheries Board
BT	Civil Aviation Authority - Airspace
John Muir Trust	Mountaineering Scotland
NATS Safeguarding	Network Rail
RAF	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays)	Scottish Water
Scottish Wildlife Trust	Scottish Wild Land Group (SWLG)
Sustrans	Visit Scotland
West of Scotland Archaeology Service	
Community Councils	
Tarbert and Skipness Community Council (TSCC)	

Consultees / landowners were made aware, through various consultation promotion materials (see **Table 4.2**), of the Consultation Document which was made available via the dedicated project website. Feedback on the Consultation Document was requested within by Friday 30th September 2022[5].

Stakeholders were invited to provide feedback through the following methods:

[5] Feedback was originally requested by the Friday 23rd September 2022; however, the consultation period was extended by one week to allow more consultees to provide feedback.

- A series of questions were asked within the Consultation Document requesting comments on specific aspects of the project as follows:
    - Has the need for the Project been adequately explained?
    - Has the approach taken to select the Preferred Route been adequately explained?
    - Are there any factors, or environmental features, that you consider may have been overlooked during the Preferred Route selection process?
    - Do you feel, on balance, that the Preferred Route selected is the most appropriate for further consideration at the alignment selection stage? Please provide an explanation of your answer.
    - If you don't agree to our Preferred Route which of the options would you consider the best option for SSEN Transmission to develop? Please provide an explanation of your answer.
- A feedback form was also provided on the project website allowing users to submit comments.

4.2.2 Public Consultations

Two face-to-face public consultation events were held between 2pm to 7pm on Tuesday 23rd August 2022 at Campbelltown Town Hall, PA28 6AB and 2pm to 7pm on Wednesday 24th August 2022 at Whitehouse Village Hall, Tarbert, PA29 6XR.

The event was advertised using several methods as shown in **Table 4-2.** A copy of the public notice is provided in **Appendix A.** The notice was also circulated to local community councils and displayed in Campbell Town Hall. Copies of the brochure was also left within the local area of Campbelltown and Tarbert.

Table 4-2 Summary of Consultation Promotion

Method	Recipients
Mail drop – Postcard	4634 local properties
Emails to Stakeholder to advise of consultation	Councillors (Mid Argyll Ward and South Kintyre Ward) and Community Councils (West Kintyre, East Kintyre, South Kintyre and Tarbert and Skipness)
Press Advert	Oban Times and Campbelltown Courier
Posters	A poster was put outside Campbelltown Town Hall
Social Media	Details and information regarding the event was posted on the SSEN Transmission project webpage

The public consultation event provided a forum to share information about the project and the Preferred Route. Attendees were invited to take a summary information leaflet (see **Appendix B**) and to consider information presented on a series of exhibition boards. The exhibition boards detailed key information on the project and what SSEN Transmission were consulting on, these included maps, environmental and engineering information.

All members of the public were invited to complete a feedback form (see **Appendix C**).

63 members of the public attended the public consultation events held in Tarbert. A total of 2 completed feedback forms were received following the event.

4.2.3 Summary of the Virtual Consultation Event

To continue engagement on the project a virtual online consultation was available on Thursday 25th August 2022 between 5pm to 7pm. SSEN Transmission developed an online consultation tool which allowed stakeholders to visit a virtual consultation room and view the project information at their leisure. The virtual

platform was designed to enable stakeholders to experience the full event at home from the computer, tablet or mobile device. It was designed to look and feel like a face-to-face consultation in a community hall, with exhibition boards, maps, interactive videos as illustrated in **Plate 4.1** and the opportunity to share views on the proposals.

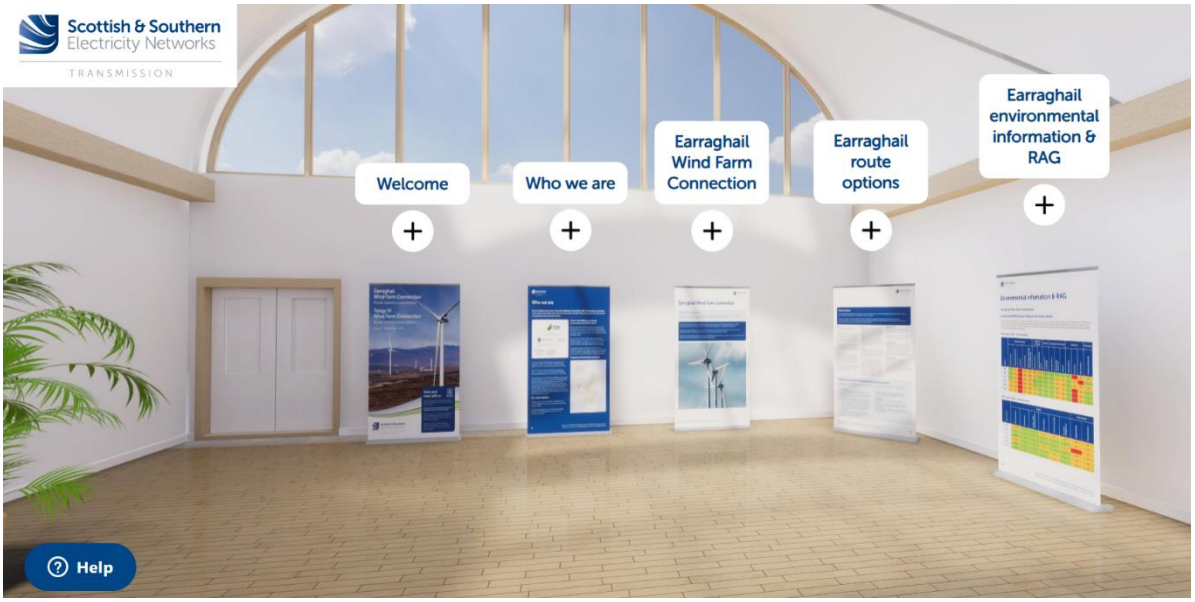

Plate 4.1 – Public Engagement Website Landing Page

The consultation period opened on 19th August 2022 and continued to 30th September 2022. All responses received during this time were considered by the project team and are included within this report. Stakeholders were able to view information about the project on the SSEN website, access the virtual consultation room and complete the feedback form. A snapshot of the virtual engagement is presented in **Table 4.2** below.

Table 4-3: Virtual Engagement Snapshot

Category	Number
Unique page views of the virtual portal over the consultation period (19th August – 30th September) (Unique / Total)	49 / 76
Visitors to SSEN project website throughout the consultation period	6
Number of visitors asking questions during the live chat event	0
Completed feedback forms	2

Where requested, hard copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form were sent out if stakeholders were unable to view the information online. A number of stakeholders emailed the SSEN Community Liaison manager to request additional information about the project. These queries were responded to by the relevant members of the project team.

5. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION RESPONSES

In developing the Earraghail 275 kV OHL Connection project, the environmental, engineering, economic and geographic constraints on the design and safe operation of the assets along with views expressed by stakeholders are considered. Gathering views from a variety of stakeholders is vital to developing and shaping a solution that balances different views of stakeholders. To ensure transparency throughout the consultation process it is vital that the opportunity is provided to share feedback received from stakeholders on the Proposed Development.

5.1 Feedback forms

In response to this consultation, feedback has primarily been received via email. Some respondents also chose to voice queries and views via post or phone call. At the respondent's request, and with agreement from the project team, their comments are included within this report. The feedback was received prior to publication of the Report on Consultation and within a timeframe where inclusion was feasible.

Two completed feedback forms were received. Where emails were received which raised questions, these were responded to directly.

5.2 Statutory and Non-Statutory Consultee Feedback

In total, 26 consultation responses were received during the consultation process, 9 from statutory and non-statutory consultees and 17 from members of the public. **Table 5.1** details the respondents and the dates on which responses were received from stakeholders in response to the Consultation Document, **Table 6.1** (Section 6) provides a summary of statutory and non-statutory stakeholder feedback and SSEN Transmissions response.

Table 5.1: Statutory and Non-Statutory Consultee Respondents

Consultee	Date Response Received
BT	22nd August 2022, 29th September 2022
NatureScot	5th September 2022
SEPA	18th September 2022
Scottish Forestry	20th September 2022
Transport Scotland	22nd September 2022
Scottish Water	22nd September 2022
HES	29th September 2022
RSPB	30th September 2022
TSCC	6th October 2022

All consultation responses received during the consultation period have been collated and summarised into a consultation register. This register remains an active document and will be updated on receipt of further consultation comment.

Whilst recognising that this consultation was not part of a formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening or scoping procedure, the statutory and non-statutory consultees gave informative responses and identified where an option may necessitate specialist survey or would require careful design or mitigation to avoid sensitive features.

Not every Route Option was given a response with consultees focussing on the Preferred Route and Route Options where they could anticipate a potential issue.

6. PROJECT RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS

6.1 Overview

This section of the report provides the responses from SSEN Transmission to the questions and themes emerging from the public consultation and the responses provided by statutory and non-statutory consultees.

6.2 Consultation Responses

Table 6.1 provides a summary of the responses to the Consultation Document provided by statutory and non-statutory consultees. **Table 6.2** provides a summary of the Feedback Forms response themes. These are presented along with a reply from SSEN Transmission, including how the project will be developed to take account of the comments provided, as it moves forward into the next phase of development.

Through the consultation process a number of comments have been raised which require clarification or further assessment. These points include additional detail on the potential alignment, recommendations for continued consultation with stakeholders, and the importance of various surveys and assessments for protection of environmental aspects as the project evolves. This process will remain inclusive, seeking further consultation where appropriate.

Table 6-1: Statutory and Non-Statutory Consultee Respondents

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
BT	22nd August 2022: We have studied this Wind Farm proposal with respect to EMC and related problems to BT point-to-point microwave radio links. The conclusion is that the proposed Turbine locations should not cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio network. Please note this refers to BT Radio Links only, you will need to contact other providers separately for information relating to other supplier links / equipment. 29th September 2022: I have plotted this again to cover the whole of the "Study Area" as shown below which passes our 100m minimum clearance from any structure to the radio link path so any proposed Turbine locations within this area do not currently show any interference with our existing or planned radio links.	None required.
NatureScot	We note that Option 1B is the preferred route. Based on information presented in the consultation brochure, we would agree that this is likely to be the least environmentally sensitive option and can confirm that it is not located within any designated sites, nor is it likely to have connectivity to any designated sites. Information collected to inform the Earraghail Wind Farm EIA Report should be used to identify the key likely receptors for this route which we consider to include golden eagles, black grouse, areas of Class 1 peat and annex 1 habitats. Water crossings will also be required as part of this route and therefore these should be surveyed appropriately for protected species.	SSEN Transmission acknowledge the need for habitat surveys to inform the project. It is currently proposed that the following ecological and ornithological surveys will inform the alignment stage: UK Habitat Classification (proposed to be up to 325 m from alignment options), ornithology VP surveys, protected species habitat suitability surveys. Further surveys include heritage walkover, landscape and visual, protected species and peat probing surveys will be undertaken to inform the EIA for the project. In line with SSEN's Routeing Guidance, the presence and potential impact upon peat will continue to be considered as part of the alignment stage. SSEN Transmission acknowledge the need to carry out peat probing surveys to inform design and layout. Where avoidance is not possible restoration measures will be identified and discussed with NatureScot.

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
SEPA	We note that the distance of the new 275 kilovolt (kV) double circuit overhead line (OHL) between Earraghail Wind Farm Substation and T-point into consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275 kV OHL is approximately 5km. Due to the short distance, we will not be providing site specific comments and please refer to our standing advice at sepa-triage-framework-and-standing-advice.pdf. Please re-consult us detailing the site specific matter you require our advice on if you consider that the standing advice does not address the issue.	SEPA's standing advice is noted and will be considered at the alignment stage to minimise potential environmental effects where possible.
Scottish Forestry	Scottish Forestry consider that both the UK Forestry Standard -4th Edition – 2017 (UKFS) and Scottish Governments Control of Woodland Policy 2009 (CoWRP) apply to this proposal. In relation the Route Option 1B: • The particular Forest Plan area (Claonaig) in scope is now out of date. However, it is worth noting that it did include measures to improve Black Grouse Habitat. It may be possible to include further enhancements as part of this proposal. • The Forest Plan area also lacks riparian native broadleaf habitats within the woodland and so native broadleaf compensatory planting proposals would be a positive move. There may be opportunities to include this within the forest plan area, given the substantial open space that has been included along riparian corridors. • There are native woodland areas within the southern section of 1B and there is a strong presumption against their removal within Scottish Governments Control of Woodland Policy. • Woodland removal should be kept to a minimum and where woodland is felled it should be replanted and we would be happy to discuss any proposals for mitigation measures and compensatory planting (CP). • All areas of woodland that need to be removed to directly accommodate the overhead line and associated infrastructures (pylons, access tracks, roads and ancillary structures) will always be counted toward the net area of CP required. • When a proposed developed or infrastructure requires to go through forestry, consideration should be given to forest design guidelines.	Scottish Forestry comments and information on UK forestry guidance and policy, and their requirements are noted. Areas of native woodland have been identified and considered within the alongside other environmental, engineering and economic considerations in the appraisal and selection of the Preferred Route. SSEN Transmission welcome the opportunities for compensatory planting. In line with SSEN's routeing guidance, forestry will be considered as in the development and appraisal of alignment options and will be further considered as part of the EIA as the project progresses. Further environmental and engineering studies and consultation with Scottish Forestry will be undertaken at the alignment stage and continue throughout the project to avoid or minimise potential effects on forestry and forest habitat where possible.

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
Transport Scotland	We note that all routes under consideration lie east of the A83(T) with no requirement to cross the trunk road. We can confirm therefore, that Transport Scotland is satisfied that the preferred route will not directly impact on the trunk road network and we have no further comments to make at this time in relation to the selected route.	None required.
Scottish Water	**Drinking Water Protected Areas** A review of our records indicates that there are no Scottish Water drinking water catchments or water abstraction sources, which are designated as Drinking Water Protected Areas under the Water Framework Directive, in the area that may be affected by the proposed activity. **Scottish Water Assets** A review of our records indicates that there are no Scottish Water assets (including water supply and sewer pipes, water and waste water treatment works, reservoirs, etc.) in the area. There is a main following the main road to the west and a lot of assets within Tarbert itself, but these shouldn't be affected. This should be confirmed however through obtaining plans from our Asset Plan Providers, listed in the SW list of precautions for assets, which can be found on the activities within our catchments page of our website at www.scottishwater.co.uk/slm. In the event that asset conflicts are identified then early contact should be made with the HAUC Diversions Team via the Development Services portal - https://swastroprodweb.azurewebsites.net/home/default It should be noted that the proposals will be required to comply with Sewers for Scotland and Water for Scotland 4th Editions 2018, including provision of appropriate clearance distances from Scottish Water assets.	It is noted that there are Scottish Water Assets near to the Preferred Route. These will be considered as the project progresses to the Alignment and EIA stage. SSEN Transmission also acknowledge Scottish Water's policies and standards in relation to dealing with asset conflicts. These comments will be considered at the alignment stage and appropriate clearance distances applied should these be required.
HES	We note that the preferred route is currently route 1B. This route would have the potential impacts on the setting of Glenreasdail Mains, chambered cairn 200m SE of, SM3281. Route options 1A & 1B are the least-preferred options for our interests, but we are content that these could be minimised with further detailed assessment and careful design. The cultural significance of chambered cairns is heavily vested in the specifically local details of their settings, as such the setting of this cairn is very sensitive to change. Should Route Option 1B be progressed, we recommend that mitigation by design is undertaken to minimise impacts on the setting of the chambered cairn. This is likely to require the careful positioning of the overhead line so as to maximise the absorbing effect of the surrounding	SSEN Transmission acknowledge the potential for impacts on SM 3281. The asset has been considered in the route options appraisal. Further environmental studies will be undertaken at the alignment stage which will consider the potential for impacts on cultural heritage sites and assets. It is considered an acceptable alignment that minimises potential effects on cultural heritage sites and assets within the Preferred Route can be found. SSEN Transmission will continue to engage with HES

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
	landform and to minimise the impact of skylining on inwards and outwards views. We recommend that this design process should be informed by an assessment of impacts on heritage assets and their settings. Any such assessment should be undertaken by a suitably qualified professional and meet the requirements of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP, 2014), the Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS, 2019) and associated Managing Change Guidance Notes. Additional guidance on cultural heritage impact assessment can also be found in the Cultural Heritage Appendix to the EIA Handbook (SNH, HES, 2018).	through subsequent project stage, including discussion on potential mitigation. The use of visualisations to demonstrate the impact of a replacement OHL will be considered as part of the EIA forming part of the Section 37 Application.
RSPB	**SPECIES** RSPB Scotland note that Route Option 1b is presently preferred by the Applicant. We are broadly supportive of this selection on the basis of minimising transiting of open ground habitats; however our data indicate that Route Option 1B passes closer to 2 black grouse *Lyrurus tetrix* areas of Highest Regional Priority than Route 1A. **Black Grouse** Argyll Native woodland comprises important black grouse habitat at a low density of ≤ 200 stems/ha. Black grouse are vulnerable to collision with unmarked barriers such as OHLs and fence lines. Data indicates that 3 areas of Highest Regional Priority and 1 area of High Regional Priority are located < 1.5 km from Route Option 1B. Route Option 1B sits well within the 5 km adult dispersal zone for 4 regionally important black grouse leks, and any degradation/loss of low-density native/Ancient Woodland could result in significant negative impacts for this special at Regional scale. Robust fieldwork will therefore be required to ascertain current levels of black grouse activity; and whether, if good numbers of birds are still present, any potential negative impacts of Route Option 1b can be mitigated. **Raptors** Historical data indicate that golden eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* breed to the north-west of the proposed Crossaig substation within the Study Area. Route Option 1B passes furthest from this site. White-tailed eagle activity has also been recorded through the Study Area. The cumulative impact of renewable energy developments/peripheral infrastructure on Kintyre's territorial pairs must be given fulsome consideration to safeguard these iconic birds, which are protected under Schedule 1, Schedule A1 and Schedule 1A of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.	SSEN Transmission note RSPB's comments on the Preferred Route. The potential for impacts upon Black Grouse and Raptors were considered within the Consultation Document and will continue to be considered through future design stages and assessment work as we seek to find an acceptable alignment that minimises potential effects on these sensitive species. Consultation with Argyll Raptor study group will be undertaken at the alignment stage with regards to the scope of ornithological surveys and any relevant data they may hold. Opportunities for habitat enhancement, i.e. blanket bog restoration and connectivity will be considered in line with SSEN's Routeing Guidance. SSEN Transmission recognise the importance of establishing a holistic approach to assessment. The potential cumulative impact is considered in the development and appraisal during routeing as well as part of the EIA. Cumulative impacts will be taken into consideration with other environmental, engineering and economic factors to select a proposed alignment which is economically viable, technically feasible, minimises impacts on important resources or features of the environment and reduces disturbance to those living in it, working in it, visiting it or using it for recreational purposes.

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
	RSPB Scotland strongly recommend that the Applicant liaises with the Argyll Raptor Study Group to ensure full capture of site occupancy/breeding data for these sensitive species. **HABITATS** RSPB Scotland urge the applicant to be ambitious in any mitigation and enhancement proposals for blanket bog restoration, positive moorland management and the connecting of Ancient Woodland fragments both on and off site. This approach would provide valuable habitat in Kintyre for raptor prey species and Regionally Important black grouse populations by creating diverse transitional zones. **CUMULATIVE IMPACT** An assessment of cumulative bird impacts in relation the other operational, consented and proposed developments in the planning system within this Natural Heritage Zone is essential. RSPB strongly advise that a holistic landscape management plan is established between energy developers and landowners.	
TSCC	TSCC notes that the planning application and EIA for the proposed Earraghail RED did not include the positioning of the substation or grid connection routes, although acknowledges there is no fixed criteria for applications in this regard. TSCC recommends this information be provided in advance to communities and consultees for all EIAs. TSCC states: • The height of proposed pylons (80m) are the same used through the transmission network. Impacts would be the same as those we can observe now between Lochgilphead and Whitehouse, which are considered severe. • Poor judgement in the planning of the line has prioritised costs to the developer over localised impacts, including a detrimental effect on the value of some local property and viability of businesses, as well as unnecessary environmental impacts. • A number of complaints have been made regarding the inconsiderate behaviour of contractors during the construction phase. E.g. quarrying beginning at 7am on a Sunday morning at the pinch point at Tarbert. • SSE made it clear to us that the preferred route would be 1B with 1A being secondary. The grounds stated being that this is simplest from an engineering perspective and therefore most cost effective.	The positioning of the cable sealing end compound will be included in the EIA Report. The height of the steel lattice towers will be approximately 46 m in height, the use of visualisations to demonstrate the impact of the OHL will be considered as part of the EIA. The overall Preferred Route was determined following an assessment of a range of environmental, engineering and economic factors. SSEN Transmission acknowledges the potential for impacts on the environment, however further environmental studies will be undertaken at the alignment stage. It is considered that an acceptable alignment that minimises potential environmental effects can be found. At this stage construction hours have not been confirmed, these will be agreed with Argyll and Bute Council prior to the commencement of works. All Route Options would be potentially visible from the B8001, Kintyre Way and people involved with outdoor pursuits. SSEN Transmission acknowledges the potential for impacts on visual amenity, however the landform and natural screening within the

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
	• Route 1 can be seen to be the worst from the perspective of loss of residential visual amenity, and also the loss of visual amenity from the B8001 trunk road serving the communities of East Kintyre and connecting tourist traffic between the ferry routes to the isles. • This vista to the south has already been radically transformed and will soon be a fully industrialised landscape. • Earraghail wind farm and grid connection will result in the development on the other side of the road, compounding this impression, resulting in a corridor or industrialised energy infrastructure. • Homeowners in the area, who have already suffered significant losses the re-sale value of their properties, will be yet further undermined with a number concerned that they will be able to find a buyer at all. • The most severely affected properties include: Gartavaigh, Glenreasdell House, Spyiancop and the cluster of houses at the top of Whitehouse Burn. • Route 1 is likely to have the most severe impact on cultural history and archaeological remains, including old shelings and the chambered cairn behind Glenreasdale, a scheduled monument. It will also have the highest level of visibility from the historical Glen Skibble valley and probably Skipness and Claonaig additionally.	area will be utilised where possible to screen views from these receptors. Further environmental studies will be undertaken at the alignment stage, it is considered that an acceptable alignment that minimises potential visual amenity effects can be found. SSEN Transmission acknowledge the potential for impacts on SM 3281 and the 11 undesignated assets within the Preferred Route. These assets have been considered in the route options appraisal. Further environmental studies will be undertaken at the alignment stage which will consider the potential for impacts on cultural heritage sites and assets. It is considered that an acceptable alignment that minimises potential effects on cultural heritage sites and assets within the Preferred Route option can be found.

Table 6-2: Feedback Form Responses

Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
The majority of feedback was objecting to wind farm connections generally rather than specifically relating to the preferred route for Earraghail. The negative impact on tourism was a recurring issue for most community members and undergrounding was suggested as an alternative. The community members also voiced concerns of the difficulty in understanding the consultation process, especially as SSEN and the wind farm developers work separately in consulting with the community.	In response to comments regarding the wind farms it was stressed that SSEN Transmission are separate from the developers of the wind farm. SSEN Transmission has an obligation to facilitate the connection of renewable generators to the grid through an economical, efficient and coordinated approach to transmission reinforcement. SSEN Transmissions application therefore is looking to gain consent to connect these wind farms to the grid, if they gain consent. However, people's frustration at the volume of projects and the fact that the connections require to be progressed separately to the wind farm application was duly noted. SSEN Transmission have made a commitment to continue to be transparent in sharing information regarding the proposals.
Comments raised concerns about the economic impact. Comments on this topic included: • Negative impact on Tourism and local businesses resulting in lack of visitors to the area. • What are the economic benefits to the area in terms of jobs and local supply chain?	As this project is currently in the development phase, if consented it will be 2026 before construction starts and SSEN Transmission would be looking to appoint a principal contractor who would be encouraged to appoint local subcontractors and create local jobs where possible. SSEN Transmission would be happy to collaborate with Argyll and Bute council in the future to attend meet the buyer events and support a local employment fair.
Concerns about the effect on landscape character and visual amenity of the area. Comments on this topic included: • Objections to more large pylons in the local area. • Visual impact severely compromised and how the pylons will dominate the landscape. • Concerned about the small area of Argyll already hosting large amounts of electrical infrastructure.	Landscape and visual effects have been considered during this stage, the overhead line Routing stage (1km wide corridor). Landscape and visual effects are considered in more detail at the next stage, the alignment selection stage (100m wide corridor). The assessment and consideration of where to locate individual towers by making use of topography, minimising direction changes and addressing the visual interaction with existing infrastructure. These will be balanced alongside other cost, technical and other environmental considerations, which will inform angle support structure locations and in turn the length, extent, cost and economic viability of the new infrastructure. It is important that integrated decision making and engagement from all SSEN Transmission participants takes place throughout the appraisal process to ensure that appropriate weight is given to all factors informing the alignment. A large steel tower is required due to the large voltage that the Wind farm is generating. SSEN has a statutory obligation to connect these Wind Farms to the grid as a license owner.
Concerns about the health and environmental impact. Comments on this topic included: • Health implications. • Measures taken to reduce Eagle Strikes. • Negative impact on the local communities Health and wellbeing.	In response to health and electrical pylons, EMFs are considered as part of the EIA process. SSEN Transmission are obliged as part of transmission licence obligations, to ensure that our assets operate within the limits specified in guidance from the UK Government. These limits are based on the advice of the Government's independent scientific advisers - Health Protection Scotland and Public Health England (formerly Health Protection Agency, Formally NRPD) - who

Summary of Feedback	Response by SSEN Transmission
• The Environmental section was vague and ambiguous.	ensure the appropriate level of protection for the public from these fields. Health Protection Scotland and Public Health England are appointed by the Secretary of State to protect the public from dangers to health. These organisations conduct and review relevant research and ensure that the guidelines for limiting exposure are based on the most appropriate available scientific information. Further information on the guidance can be accessed on the UK Government website; https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/electromagnetic-fields. Information on the research into a possible link between EMFs generated from electricity transmission infrastructure and human health is documented in the Energy Networks Association (2017) publication "Electric and Magnetic Fields: The Facts". SSEN Transmission are carefully considering alignment in order to mitigate any aviation strikes. There are ongoing ornithology surveys being undertaken which will be available within the EIA. This will be to confirm risk and required mitigation.
There were a few comments that stated that it was an excellent presentation provided at the consultation event. Most objections to the route noted a preference for route 2 and route 3.	Noted, none required.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

7.1 Summary

This Report on Consultation documents the consultation process that has been undertaken for the project between August and September 2022. The programme of consultation was designed to engage with stakeholders including statutory and non-statutory consultees, local communities, landowners and individual residents in order to invite feedback on the rationale for, and approach to, the selection of the Preferred Route.

This report describes the key responses received and provides detail on the actions proposed in response to the issues raised. The consultation on the route selection process has been successful in obtaining a large amount of feedback from both statutory and non-statutory consultees.

A number of stakeholder responses provided information on further material to be considered for the alignment appraisals. The specific comments raised will be incorporated in the further assessment work to be undertaken. The points raised include the need for additional consideration of the potential impacts upon specific receptors or areas, the need for further environmental information, recommendations for continued consultation with stakeholders and the importance of various assessments for the protection of environmental aspects as the project evolves.

To address these points, the following actions are being undertaken:

- Alignment options will be developed and will consider appropriate technological options along the Preferred Route. The results of these studies will be reported at Alignment Selection (Stage 3);
- Further environmental survey and assessment work will be undertaken in parallel with the engineering studies to enable a collaborative approach in seeking to identify preferred alignments through this sensitive landscape and environment. In particular, this will involve further survey effort and advice relating to landscape and visual, ornithology, hydrology, peat, soils and cultural heritage matters. The results of these studies will be reported at Alignment Selection; and
- Further consultation will be organised with key statutory and non-statutory consultees, local councillors and local communities to provide updates on the project during the alignment stage. This will include addressing comments relating to the provision of information during the consultation process. Formal consultation will be organised to enable comments from stakeholders to be sought on the preferred alignments identified.

All comments and considerations to date will be taken forward into the alignment and EIA stages, through which assessments will be carried out for all relevant environmental aspects. This process will remain inclusive, seeking further consultation where appropriate.

The consultation process has confirmed that Route Option 1B should be taken forward as the Proposed Route, within which further study will seek to identify alignment options. It is recognised that the Preferred Route runs through a sensitive environment with challenging terrain. However, the Preferred Route has been selected on the basis that it is considered to provide an optimum balance of environmental, engineering and economic factors, and will become the Proposed Route taken forward to the alignment stage of this project.

Detailed analysis of potential alignment options within the Proposed Route and consultation feedback will focus on finding an alignment that avoids or minimises potential environmental impacts referred to in **Table 6.1** above.

7.2 Next Steps

The project will now be taken into Stage 3 (Alignment Selection), commencing with identification of alignment option within the Proposed Route. These will be informed by this and further consultation exercises, and through detailed surveys, which may identify any additional and / or currently unknown engineering, environmental or land use constraints.

Members of the public and other interested stakeholders will be invited to participate in another consultation on the Preferred Alignment in Summer 2023, before the alignment is finalised for the purpose of seeking the necessary consents and permissions under the Electricity Act 1989.

SSEN Transmission will continue to engage with the local community, Community Councils, elected representatives, statutory and non-statutory consultees throughout the project.

APPENDIX A – CONSULTATION EVENT NEWSPAPER ADVERT

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Earraghail Wind Farm Connection Project and Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection Project Route Options Consultation

SSEN Transmission invites you to come and share your views with us at our upcoming public consultation events.

What is happening?
SSEN Transmission is holding a series of public consultation events to gain views and feedback on our route options for both Earraghail Wind Farm Connection Project and Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection Project.

Why is this project required?
Due to the increase in renewable energy generation in Argyll, some of the existing network needs to be upgraded and reinforced to ensure supply and support the transition to net zero emissions.

For further information about the projects and their planning applications, access to the virtual consultation room and the feedback form can be found on the project webpages.

Earraghail Wind Farm Connection Project - https://bit.ly/3J87GeP
Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection Project - https://bit.ly/3PYIMjN

We kindly request that feedback forms are submitted by 5pm on Friday 23rd of September 2022.

Come and meet us here:

Tuesday 23rd August 2022
2pm-7pm at Campbelltown Town Hall, PA28 6AB

Wednesday 24th August 2022
2pm-7pm at Whitehouse Village Hall, Tarbert PA29 6XR

Or join us online, via the project webpage, to chat with the project team using live Instant Message chat at the following times:

Thursday 25th August 2022
5pm – 7pm

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Community Liaison Manager:

Caitlin Quinn
Community Liaison Manager

1 Waterloo St, Glasgow, G2 6AY
Mobile: +44(0) 7901 135 758
Email: caitlin.quinn@sse.com

Earraghail **Tangy IV**

@SSETransmission @SSEN Community

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APPENDIX B – CONSULTATION BROCHURE

Earraghail Wind Farm Connection

Route options consultation

Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection

Route options consultation

August - September 2022

Share your views with us:

We are launching public consultations to seek feedback on the route options on two projects in Argyll and Bute:

Earraghail Wind Farm Connection Project and Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection Project.

Information on our proposals is available within this consultation booklet and on the project webpages. We intend to hold both face to face and virtual consultations.

Please note, a face to face event will be subject to covid restrictions and updates on whether these will go ahead will be available on our webpages.

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
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Who we are

We are Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), operating under licence as Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc (SHE Transmission) for the transmission of electricity in the north of Scotland.

In total we maintain about 5,000km of overhead lines and underground cables – easily enough to stretch across the Atlantic from John O'Groats all the way to Boston in the USA.

Our network crosses some of the UK's most challenging terrain – including circuits that are buried under the seabed, are located over 750m above sea level and up to 250km long.

The landscape and environment that contribute to the challenges we face also give the area a rich resource for renewable energy generation. There is a high demand to connect from new wind, hydro and marine generators which rely on Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks to provide a physical link between the new sources of power and electricity users. Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks is delivering a major programme of investment to ensure that the network is ready to meet the needs of our customers in the future.

Our responsibilities

We have a licence for the transmission of electricity in the north of Scotland and we are closely regulated by the energy regulator Ofgem.

Our licence stipulates that we must develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission.

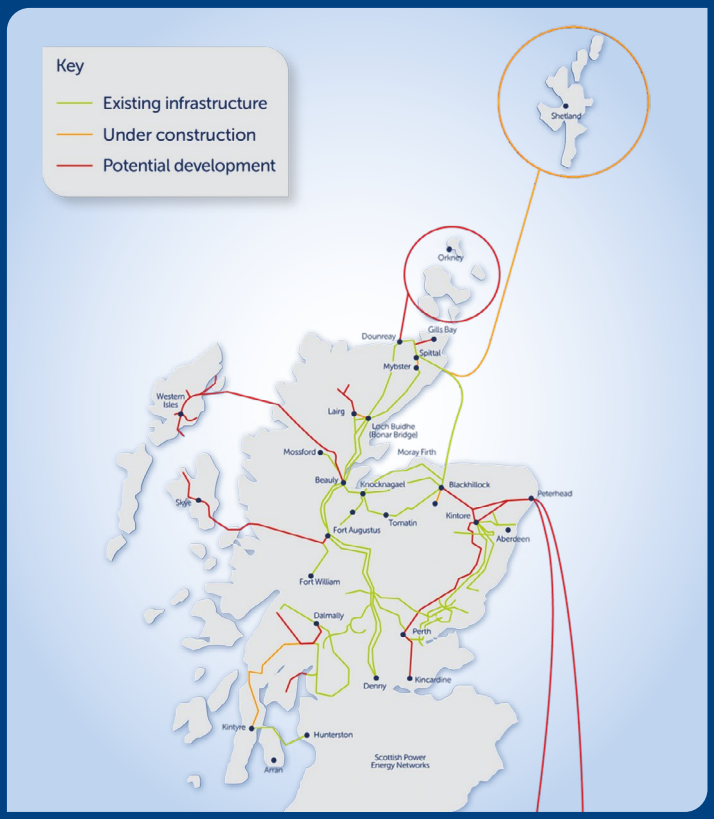
What is the difference between transmission and distribution?

Electricity transmission is the transportation of electricity from generating plants to where it is required at centres of demand. The electricity transmission network, or grid, transports electricity at very high voltages through overhead lines, underground cables and subsea cables.

Our transmission network connects large scale generation, primarily renewables, to central and southern Scotland and the rest of Great Britain. It also helps secure supply by providing reliable connection to the wider network of generation plans.

The electricity distribution network is connected into the transmission network but the voltage is lowered by transformers at electricity substations, and the power is then distributed to homes and businesses through overhead lines or underground cables.

Overview of transmission projects



www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Earraghail Wind Farm connection

The proposed project would involve:

The overall aim of the project is to reinforce the existing transmission network connections in the Argyll region to enable renewable energy projects to connect to the GB transmission network and ensure security of supply.

SSEN Transmission are proposing to construct and operate a new double circuit 275kV overhead line (OHL) to connect Earraghail Wind Farm to a T-point into one side of the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line.

The developer of Earraghail Wind Farm has submitted an application to the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for a 114MW wind farm and has a contracted connection date of April 2027.

Under the terms of Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989, SSEN Transmission is therefore obliged to connect the Earraghail Wind Farm to the transmission network by the contracted connection date.

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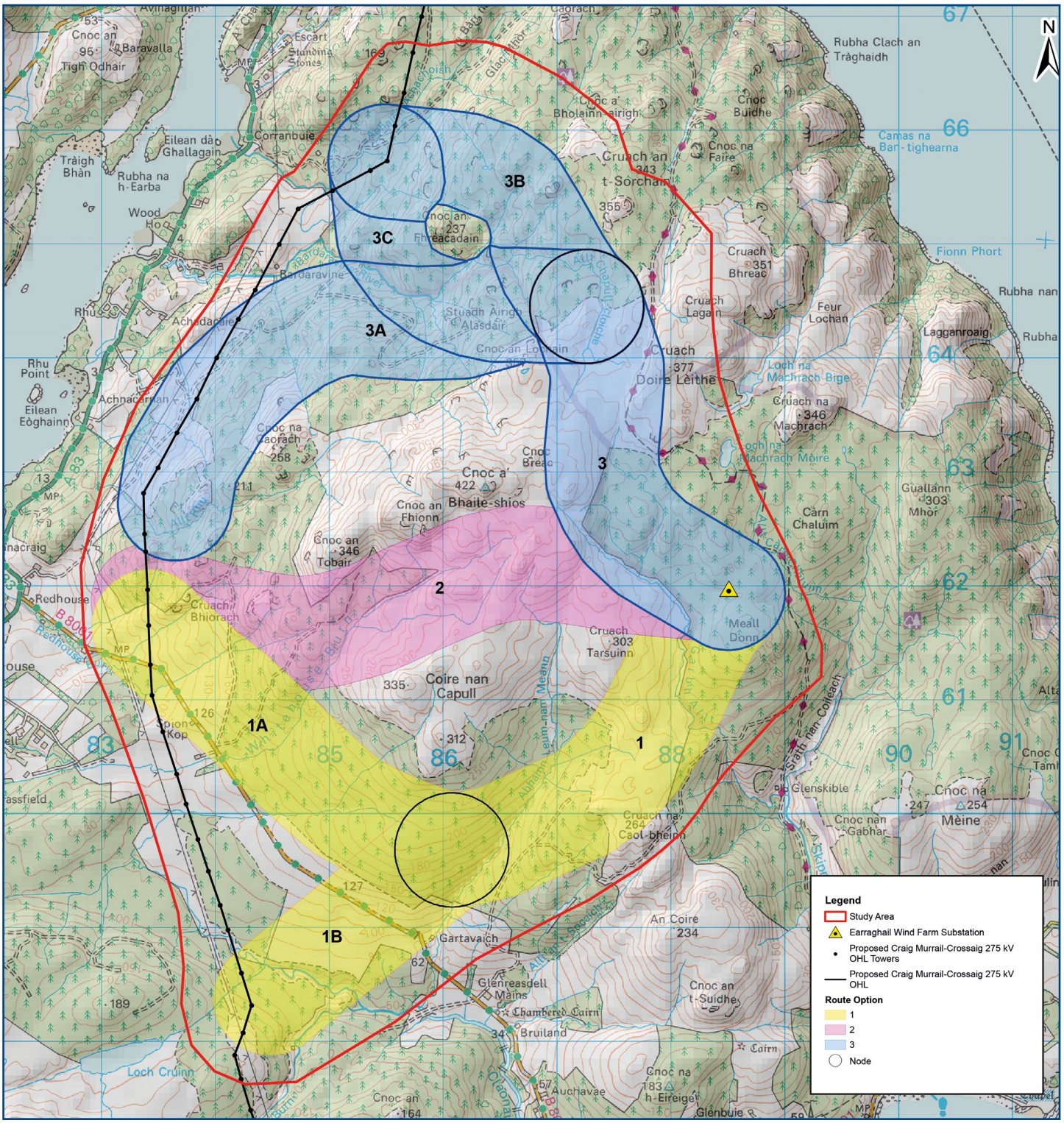
Earraghail Wind Farm Connection



www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Route options

We have identified three potential route options for the new overhead line. The route selection process identifies a wide corridor in which a preferred alignment for the overhead line can be determined.

This aims to progress towards a preferred overhead line alignment in a systematic manner, which is technically feasible, economically viable, and could be anticipated to cause the least disturbance to the environment and to those who live, work and visit the area. These options are presented on the following pages.

Route 1

Route option 1 has been divided into two sub-options, route option 1A and 1B.

Route option 1A

Route option 1A is approximately 6.8km in length. It would leave the Earraghail Wind Farm Substation in a south west direction through a small valley between Cruach Tarsumn and Cruach na Caol-bheinn.

The route would then head in a north west direction against the slope, in parallel to the east of the B8001 before joining into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line.

Route option 1B

Route option 1B is approximately 5.9km in length. It would leave the Earraghail Wind Farm Substation in a south west direction through a small valley between Cruach Tarsumn and Cruach na Caol-bheinn.

The route would then continue south west before crossing the B8001 and joining into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line.

Route 2

Route option 2 is approximately 5.2km in length. It would run east to west between Earraghail Wind Farm Substation and the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line. The route would utilise a valley between high points at Cnoc a'Bhaite-shios, Cnoc an Fhionn and Cnoc an Tobair to the north and Crunach Tarsuinn and Coire nan Capull to the south. The western section of route would have to traverse a steep slope.

Route 3

Route option 3 has been divided into three sub-options, route option 3A, 3B and 3C, in order to assess the three potential route options that could be preferred within the north west of the corridor.

Route option 3 is approximately 3km in length and would leave Earraghail Wind Farm Substation to the north west, traveling north and roughly following the route of the Kintryre Way. The route avoids areas of higher ground to the east, Cruach Doire Leithe, and west, Cnoco Breac. Approximately 1.8km north west of Earraghail Wind Farm Substation, the route would then split into three sub-options.

Route option 3A

Route option 3A is approximately 4.5km in length and would bare west from route option 3, traversing the steep slopes.

The route then travels south west along the route of the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line.

Route option 3B

Route option 3B is approximately 2.3km in length and follows a more direct route, continuing from route option 3 in a north west direction and would connect into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line north before bearing west around the Cnoc an Freacadain high point.

Route option 3C

Route option 3C is approximately 2.5km in length and is proposed between route options 3A and 3B to avoid the Cnoc an Freacadain high point by heading west from route option 3 before connecting into the consented Craig Murrail to Crossaig 275kV overhead line within the north west of the Corridor.

What are the potential risks associated with these options?

We have completed a desk based assessment of the routes and have identified that the six options present the following environmental and engineering risks:

1. Environmental

a) Route options 3A, 3B and 3C encounter areas of steep slopes and several areas of Ancient Woodland.
b) All route options pass-through areas of heath and blanket bog. However, route option 2 has the largest stretch of isolated moorland to cross.
c) All options pass-through upland moorland and woodland edge habitats with the potential to support Schedule 1 and red listed species including hen harrier, black grouse and golden eagle. Route options 2 and 3 passes through the biggest areas of upland moorland habitat. These route options are also the smallest distance from the high peaks and crags of the corridor that could support nesting golden eagle.
d) Route option 1A has a single category C listed building within it. There are no World Heritage Sites, Inventory Battlefields or Inventory Gardens and Designated Landscapes within the route options.
e) Potential to impact a wider woodland area through increased windthrow risk from woodland removal of an overhead line operational corridor.

2. Engineering

a) All routes are impacted by the wind farm and the wake effect.
b) Peatland present design challenges on all routes, however on routes 1A and 1B this could be mitigated during the alignment stage.
c) Routes 1A, 1B, 3A and 3C all pass through 1 in 200 year flood zone areas which will require to be mitigated during the alignment stage.

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Enviromental infomation & RAG

Earraghail Wind Farm Connection

Environment RAG impact rating of all route options

To demonstrate the full extent of analysis undertaken on the three route options identified, we created Red Amber Green (RAG) table's which illustrate the level of associated risk to each consideration. A high risk is shown as red, a medium risk is shown as amber, and a low risk is shown as green. For further information on the route options analysis, please refer to the consultation document available from the project webpage or on request.

RAG impact rating - environmental

Route	Natural heritage					Cultural heritage		People	Landscape and visual			Land use			Planning
	Designations	Protected species	Habitats	Ornithology	Hydrology, geology & hydrogeology	Designations	Cultural heritage assets	Proximity to dwellings	Designations	Landscape character	Visual	Agriculture	Forestry	Recreation	Policy proposals
1A	L	M	H	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	H	M	M
1B	L	M	H	M	M	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	M	H	L
2	L	M	H	M	M	L	L	L	L	M	M	L	M	M	M
3A	M	M	H	M	M	L	L	L	L	M	M	L	H	M	L
3B	M	M	H	M	M	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	H	M	L
3C	M	M	H	M	M	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	H	M	L

RAG impact rating - cost parameters

Site option	Capital						Operational	
	Construction	Diversions	Public road improvements	Tree felling	Land assembly	Consent mitigations	Inspections	Maintenance
1A	M (123%)	L	L	M	M	M	M	M
1B	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	M
2	L (101%)	L	L	L	L	M	H	M
3A	M (130%)	L	L	M	L	L	M	M
3B	L (104%)	L	L	L	M	L	M	M
3C	L (109%)	L	L	L	M	L	M	M

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www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Engineering RAG rating of the six route options

Route	Infrastructure crossing		Environmental design				Ground condition		Construction and maintenance		Proximity				Additional considerations
	Major crossings	Minor crossings	Elevation	Atmospheric pollution	Contaminated land	Flooding	Terrain	Peatland	Access	Angle supports	Clearance distance	Wind farms	Communication masts	Urban development	Route length
1A	L	H	H	L	L	M	L	H	M	M	L	M	L	L	M
1B	L	M	H	L	L	M	L	H	M	L	L	M	L	L	L
2	L	L	H	L	L	L	L	H	H	L	L	M	L	L	L
3A	L	M	H	L	L	M	L	H	M	L	L	M	L	L	H
3B	L	L	H	L	L	L	L	H	M	M	L	M	L	L	L
3C	L	M	H	L	L	M	L	H	M	M	L	M	L	L	L

Preferred route

The aim of our routing guideline process is to provide a balanced assessment of cost engineering and environmental factors in order to select the preferred route for the new overhead line. Route option 1B is considered to be the preferred route compared to the other route options as:

- There are no statutory or non-statutory designated sites (including Ancient Woodland) present;
- It passes through the least amount of upland moorland habitat;
- It is the greatest distance from the high peaks and crags in the centre of the study area that could support nesting golden eagle;
- It has the highest potential of developing an alignment that passes through a limited area of exposed landscape;
- Has the lowest peatland percentage and average elevation, suggesting it has the lowest associated risk;
- It provides the additional advantage of allowing an angle point tee in, which will produce a less complex design and reduce safety concerns.

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Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection Project

The proposed project would involve:

This project aims to connect Tangy IV Wind Farm to either the existing Crossaig – Carradale overhead line, or directly to Carradale Substation, via approximately 21.5km of new overhead line by spring 2027.

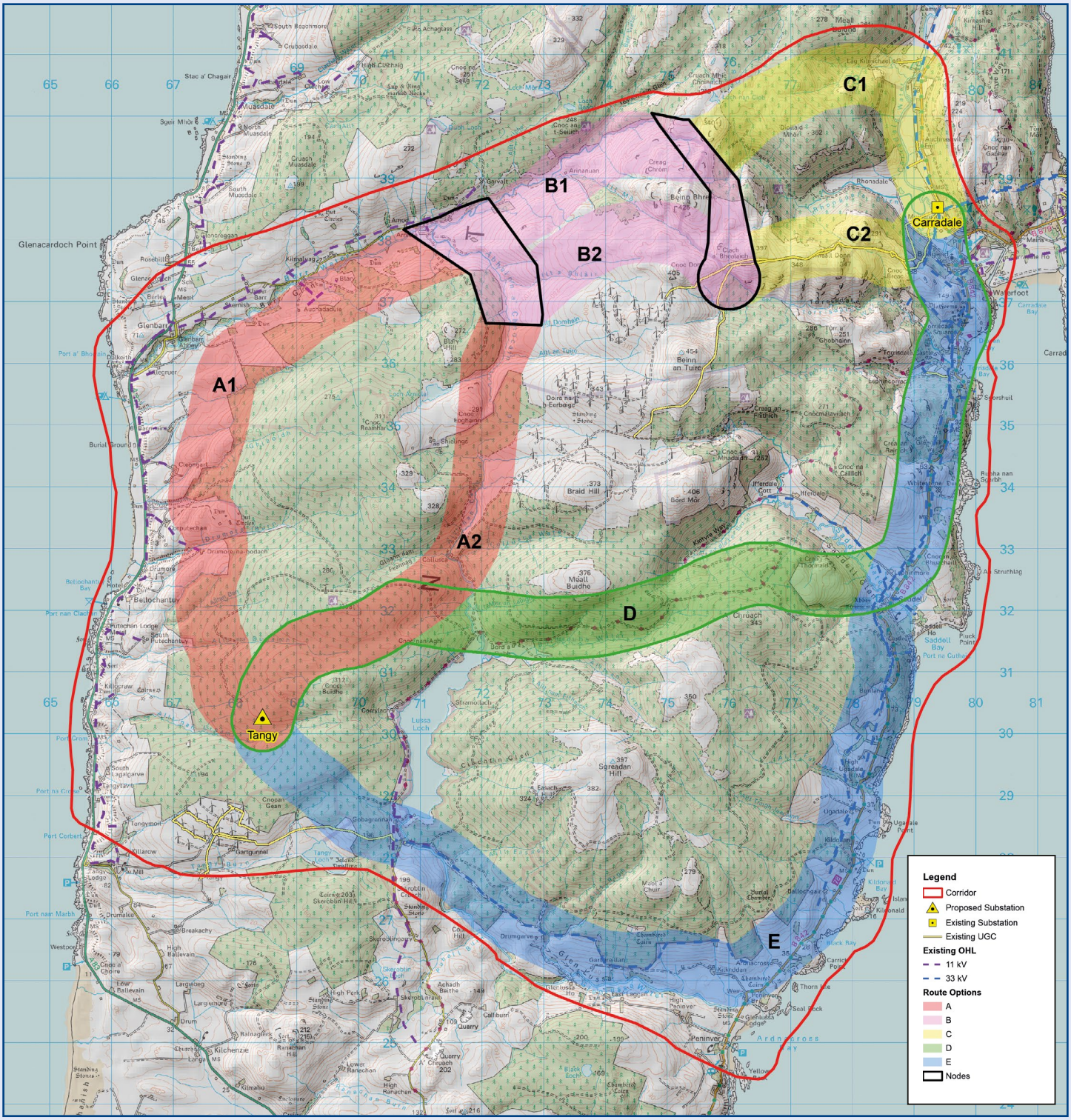
SSEN Transmission is proposing to construct and operate a new single circuit 132kV overhead line to connect Tangy IV Wind Farm to existing infrastructure at, or near Carradale substation.

The connection point will be a new switching station or extension of the Carradale Grid Supply Point (GSP). The developer of Tangy IV Wind Farm gained consent from the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for a 100MW wind farm and has a contracted connection date of April 2027.

Under the terms of Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989, SSEN Transmission is therefore obliged to connect the Tangy IV Wind Farm to the transmission network by the contracted connection date.

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection



Route options

We have identified five potential routes for the new overhead line. The route selection process identifies a wide corridor in which a preferred alignment for the overhead line can be determined.

This aims to progress towards a preferred overhead line alignment in a systematic manner, which is technically feasible, economically viable, and could be anticipated to cause the least disturbance to the environment and to those who live, work and visit the area or use it for recreation. The options are as follows.

Route 1 - Zone A
North of Tangy to Arnicle

Route option A1 would travel north along the woodland edge on the lower slopes, above the western coastal edge of Kintyre. Near Glenbarr, the route would turn north east, running along the slopes above the Barr Water. Route option A1 would meet the node at the Abhainn a Chnoicain water course at Arnicle. Route option A1 is approximately 11km in length.

Route option A2 travels north east from Tangy IV Wind Farm Substation around the lower slopes of Cnoc Buidhe (312m AOD), and along a shallow valley. The route then heads north, along the Allt nan Calltuinn water course to the west of the existing Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm, before joining the node at Arnicle. Route option A2 is approximately 8km in length.

Route 2 - Zone B
East of Arnicle to Clach Bhealaich

Route option B1 would continue from Route option A1 to stretch north east from route option A1, traversing through an area of steep terrain north of Beinn Bhreac. The route would extend east to an additional node north of Clach Bhealaich where there is an opportunity for the route to pass around the Beinn Bhreac hilltop (425m AOD) to the south and join route option C2 (described below). Route option B1 is approximately 4km in length.

Route option B2 would continue from route option A2 to stretch east of Arnicle, through shallow valleys, avoiding areas of steep slopes at Beinn Bhreac within the north. The route would pass north of the existing Beinn au Tuirn Wind Farm and continue east to join the node at Clach Bhealaich. Route option B2 is approximately 4.4km in length.

Route 3 - Zone C
East of Clach Bhealaich to the B842 between Carradale and Lag Kilmichael

Route option C1 would continue from route option B1 north of Clach Bhealaich in a north east direction, traversing steeper slopes in the north eastern extent of the corridor at Lag Kilmichael. Route option C1 would then turn south travelling in parallel to existing Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line before connecting into a T-point into one side of the existing Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line or connecting to Carradale substation. Route option C1 is approximately 5.9km in length.

Route option C2 would continue from route option B2 east from the node at Clach Bhealaich, along the rocky hilltops and steep terrain before crossing the Carradale Water valley to a T-point into one side of the existing Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line or connecting to Carradale Substation. Route option C2 is approximately 3.7km in length.

Route 4 - Route D
North east of Tangy, east to Saddell and north to Carradale

Route option D presents a continuous route from Tangy IV Wind Farm Substation to Carradale Substation. This route option would initially follow the same route as route option A2, north east of the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm, running through shallow valleys. Instead of heading north at Collusca, the route would continue east, running in the same direction as the Kintyre Way to Creag Thormaic. The route would then extend east to the B842 at Suddell and follow the road infrastructure north along the coast to the connection point at Carradale substation. Route option D is approximately 17.2km in length.

Route 5 - Route E
South of Tangy, east to the B842 and north to Carradale

Route option E would follow a route south east of the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm, then following along the existing woodland edge and existing 33kV overhead line to meet the B842 on the east coast. The route would follow the existing infrastructure line along the coast in a northern direction and meet the connection point at Carradale Substation in the north. Route option E is located adjacent to the East Kintyre Area of Panoramic Quality (APQ) and is the longest route proposed with a total length of approximately 22.5km.

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

What are the potential risks associated with these options?

We have completed a desk based assessment of the routes and have identified that the five options present the following environmental and engineering risks:

3. Environmental

a) Route option A2 is less than 500m from the Kintyre Goose Roosts Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar and Kintyre Goose Lochs Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) that is designated for Greenland white-fronted geese. However, they are known to forage in areas immediately north of route option A1. Route options D and E both pass through the Kintyre Goose Roosts SSSI, Ramsar, and SPA and the Torrisdale Cliff SSSI, with route option E near the Tangy Loch SSSI and SPA.
b) Route options A1, B1, C1, C2, D and E cross over several areas of Ancient Woodland.
c) All route options pass through potential Annex 1 habitats (namely heath and blanket bog) where route B, C, D and E contain continuous sections of blanket bog and wet heath.
d) Route option A1 has four Scheduled Monuments within it (Corputechan, Cleongart, An Dunan, Blary). Route option D has a single Scheduled Monument within it, Saddell Abbey. Route option E has four Scheduled Monuments within it (Saddell Abbey, Ardnacross, Kilkeddan, Kildonan).

4. Engineering

a) All routes pose technical challenges due to high elevations with almost all routes having over 50% of the route exceeding elevations of 200m.
b) Almost all routes pass through areas of peat which presents design challenges at alignment stage.
c) All routes pass close to wind farms which present design challenges to avoid wake effect produced by the wind turbines.
d) Route 2a and 2b pass through a 1 in 200-year flood zone towards the end which will need to be accounted for at alignment stage.

Tangy IV Wind Farm connection

Environment RAG impact rating of all route options

To demonstrate the full extent of analysis undertaken on the five route options identified, we created Red Amber Green (RAG) table's which illustrate the level of associated risk to each consideration. A high risk is shown as red, a medium risk is shown as amber, and a low risk is shown as green. For further information on the route options analysis, please refer to the Consultation Document available from the project webpage or on request.

RAG impact rating - environmental

Route	Natural heritage					Cultural heritage		People	Landscape and visual			Land use			Planning
	Designations	Protected species	Habitats	Ornithology	Hydrology, geology & hydrogeology	Designations	Cultural heritage assets	Proximity to dwellings	Designations	Landscape character	Visual	Agriculture	Forestry	Recreation	Policy proposals
A1	H	M	H	M	M	H	M	L	L	M	M	L	M	L	M
A2	M	M	H	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	H	L	M
B1	H	M	H	M	M	M	L	L	L	M	L	L	L	L	L
B2	H	M	H	M	M	L	L	L	L	M	L	L	L	L	L
C1	H	M	H	M	M	M	L	M	L	H	M	L	M	M	L
C2	H	M	H	M	M	L	M	M	L	H	M	L	M	M	L
D	H	M	H	H	M	M	H	H	M	M	H	L	H	H	M
E	H	M	H	H	M	H	H	H	M	M	H	L	M	H	M

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Engineering RAG rating of the five route options

Route	Infrastructure crossing		Environmental design				Ground condition		Construction and maintenance				
	Major crossings and metallic pipelines	Road crossings	Elevation	Atmospheric Pollution	Contaminated land	Flooding	Terrain	Peatland	Access	Wind farms	Communication masts	Urban environments	Metallic pipelines
A1	L	H	L	L	L	L	L	M	L	H	M	L	L
A2	L	H	H	L	M	L	L	H	L	H	M	L	L
B1	L	M	H	L	L	L	M	H	H	H	L	L	L
B2	L	L	H	L	L	L	L	H	H	H	L	L	L
C1	M	H	H	L	L	H	M	M	M	L	H	L	M
C2	L	H	H	L	L	H	H	H	M	L	H	L	L
D	L	H	H	L	M	M	M	M	L	H	H	L	L
E	M	H	L	L	M	M	M	L	L	H	H	L	M

RAG impact rating - cost parameters

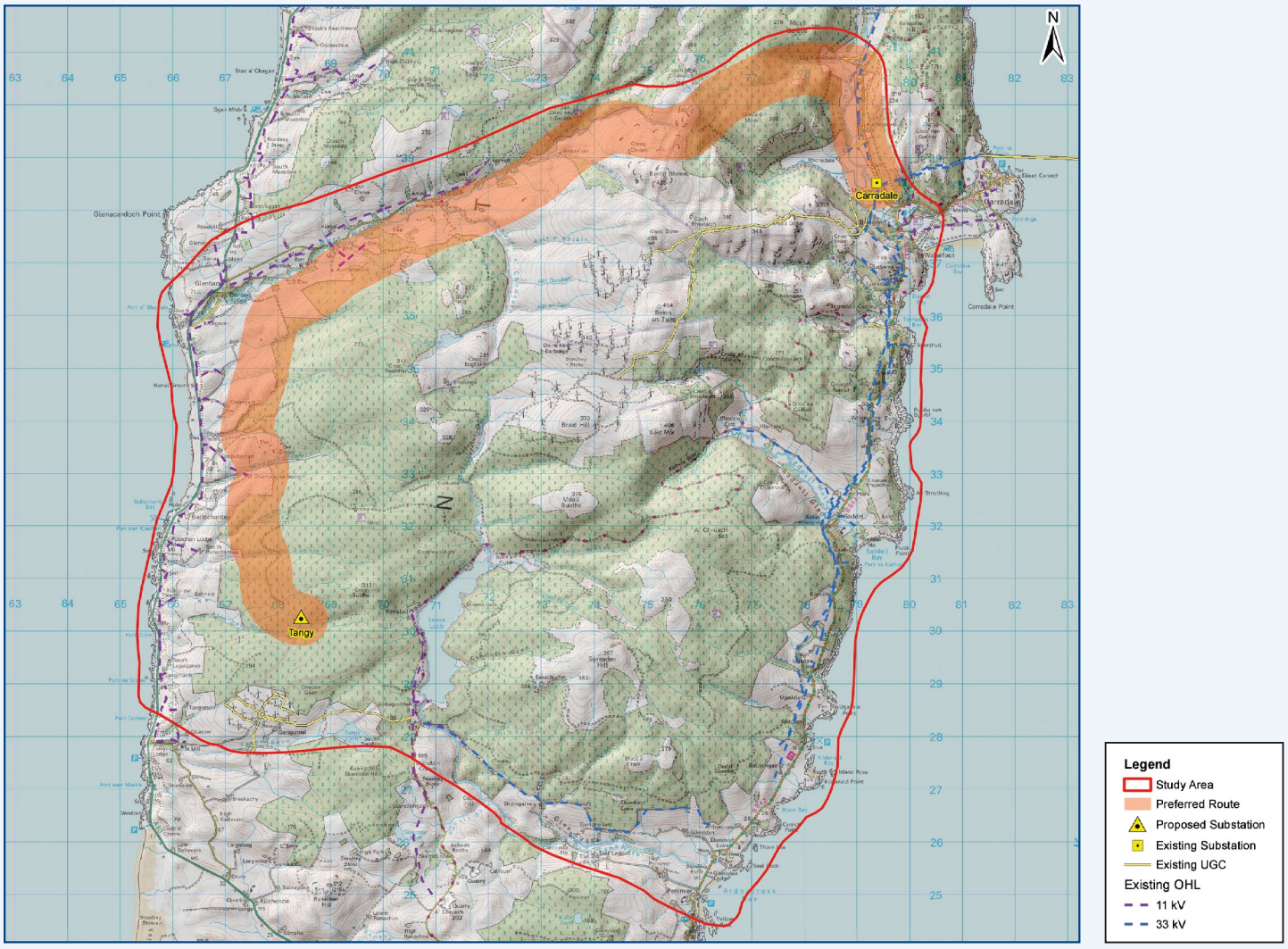
Site option	Capital						Operational	
	Cost	Diversions	Public road improvements	Felling	Land assembly	Consent mitigations	Inspections	Maintenance
A1	M (139%)	M	L	L	L	H	L	L
A2	L	L	L	H	L	L	L	L
B1	L	L	L	H	L	M	L	L
B2	H (187%)	L	L	L	L	L	M	M
C1	L	M	L	H	L	L	L	L
C2	M (138%)	H	L	L	L	M	M	M
D	L	L	L	H	L	L	L	L
E	M (130%)	H	L	M	L	M	L	L

Tangy IV Wind Farm Connection

Preferred route

The aim of our routing guideline process is to provide a balanced assessment of cost, engineering and environmental factors in order to select the preferred route for the new overhead line. Route option A1, B1 and C1 is considered as the overall preferred route as:

- Route option A1 is further away from the Kintyre Goose Roosts multiple designated site;
- Route options A1 and B1 would be less affected by the proposed Cnoc Buidhe Wind Farm and few other proposed wind farms in this area (including proposed Arnicle Wind Farm);
- Route option A1-B1-C1 consist of the lower woodland level, along with less moorland/peatland habitat;
- Route option C1 is preferred due to terrain and lack of technical constraints associated with the substation orientation and existing network at Carradale Substation.



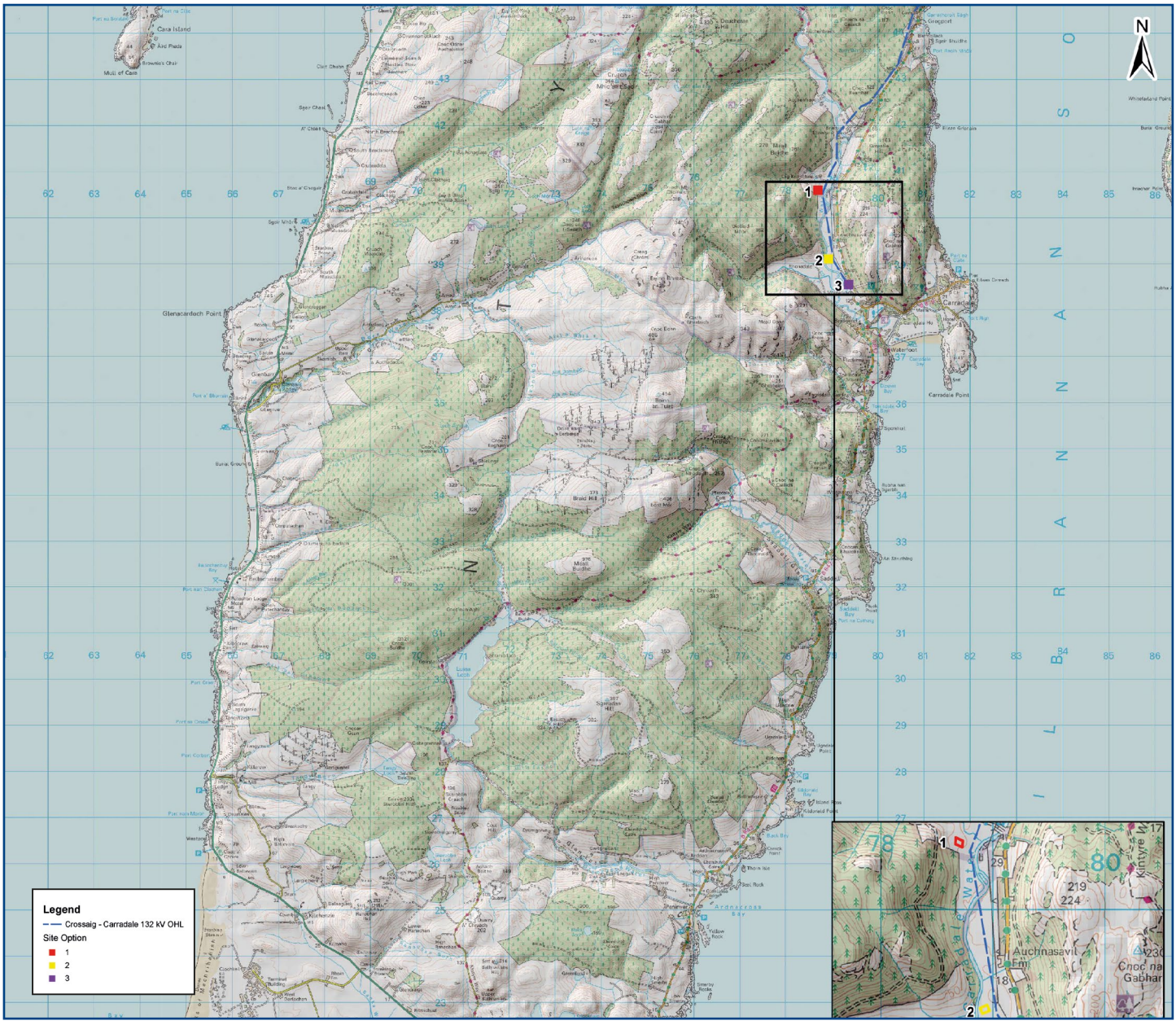
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Tangy Switching Station/Carradale Direct Connection

SSEN Transmission is proposing to construct a new switching station or an extension to the existing Carradale Grid Supply Point (GSP) between the proposed Tangy 132kV overhead line and the existing Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line.

The switching station and GSP will be used to connect the new Tangy IV Wind Farm to the grid whilst ensuring all relevant protection equipment is installed in the event of a fault.

The requirement for the switching station is to create a central node on the network where multiple lines of the same voltage can connect. Switches at this location allow each line in and out to be controlled without affecting the other lines. In this instance, the switching station is required to connect the proposed overhead line from Tangy IV substation to the existing Crossaig Carradale 132kV overhead line and subsequently to the UK electricity network.



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Tangy Switching Station/Carradale Direct Connection

Three potential site options were identified by SSEN Transmission within the area of search.

Site option 1

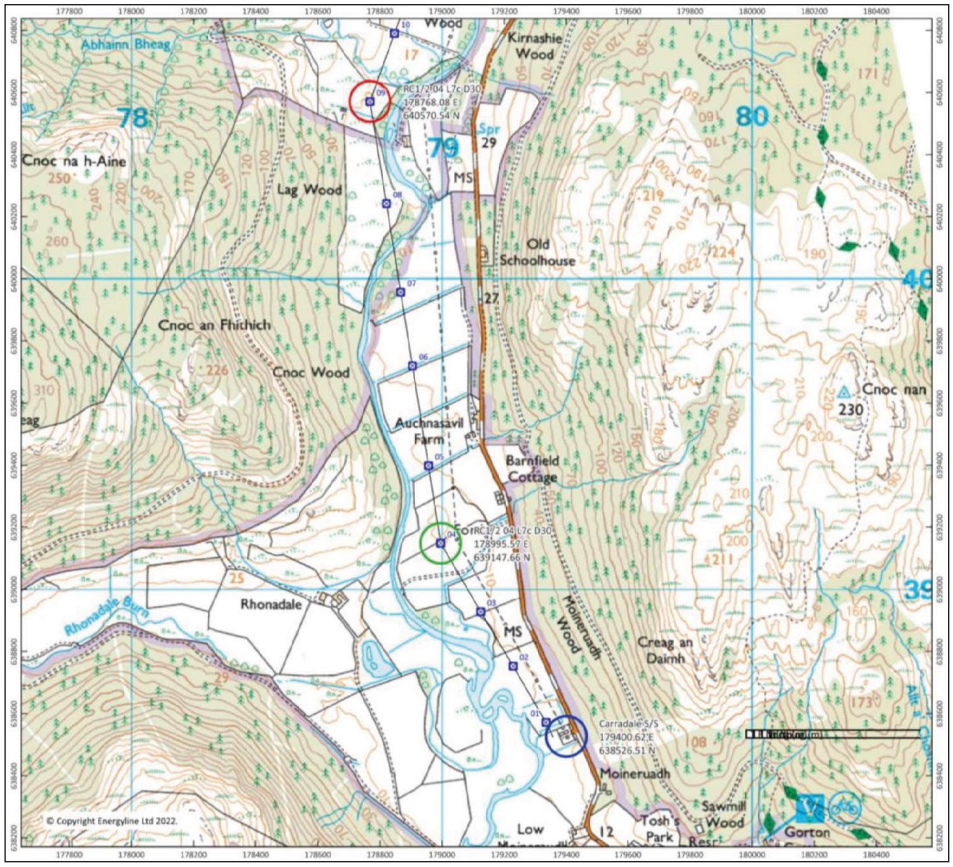
This site option will consist of a switching station and is located west of Tower 9 of the Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line, approximately 2.1km north west of the existing Carradale GSP. Site Option 1 is located on agricultural land and is bound by Carradale Water to the east and open fields with blocks of woodland to the north, west and south.

Site option 2

This site option will consist of a switching station which is located west of Tower 4 of the Crossaig to Carradale 132kV overhead line, approximately 700m north west of the existing Carradale GSP. Site Option 2 is located on agricultural land and bound by the Carradale Water to the west and open fields with scattered woodland areas to the north, east and south.

Site option 3

This site option will consist of the installation of a new busbar immediately north of the existing Carradale GSP and will form an extension to this substation. Site Option 3 is located on agricultural land and bound by the Carradale Water to the west and the B842 to the east.



Lattice Steel Towers
Lattice Steel OHL
Tower Options
Option 1
Option 2
Option 3

What are the potential risks associated with these options?

We have completed a desk based assessment of the sites and have identified that these three options present the following environmental and engineering risks:

5. Environmental

- All three locations are in proximity to a major watercourse, the Carradale Water;
- All sites are close to associated riparian habitat including Native and Ancient Woodland;
- Multiple archaeological investigations have been conducted in the area of site option 3, concluding a concentrated presence of prehistoric activity. Site option 3 also has an increased likelihood of subsurface archaeology given the presence of nearby designations;
- Site option 3 is in proximity to a known bat roost.

6. Engineering

- Lack of future opportunities to expand the switching station or Carradale GSP extension due to the surrounding topography and capacity issues on the Carradale to Crossaig OHL;
- Site options 2 and 3 both fall within a 1 in 200 year flood zone.

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

RAG ratings for the site options

To demonstrate the full extent of analysis undertaken on the three route options identified, we created Red Amber Green (RAG) table's which illustrate the level of associated risk to each consideration. A high risk is shown as red, a medium risk is shown as amber, and a low risk is shown as green.

RAG impact rating - environmental parameters

Site option	Natural heritage					Cultural heritage		Landscape and visual			Land use			Planning	
	Designations	Protected species	Habitats	Ornithology	Hydrology, geology & hydrogeology	Designations	Cultural heritage assets	Designations	Landscape character	Visual	Agriculture	Forestry	Recreation	Policy	Proposals
1	L	M	L	L	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L
2	L	M	L	L	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L
3	L	H	L	L	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	M	M

RAG impact rating - engineering parameters

Site option	Connectivity				Footprint requirements			Hazards		Ground conditions		Environmental conditions							Construction access	Operation and maintenance
	Existing circuits/network	Future development possibilities	Interface with sse distribution and generation	Dno connection	Technology	Adjacent land use	Space availability	Unique hazards	Existing hazards	Topography	Geology	Elevation	Salt pollution	Flooding	Carbon footprint	Sf6	Contaminated land	Noise (proximity to dwellings/ residential properties)	Substation Access road	Access
1	L	H	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	L	L	L	H	M	H	L	L	L	M	L
2	M	H	L	L	L	M	H	H	M	L	M	L	H	H	H	L	L	L	M	L
3	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	L	M	L	H	H	L	L	L	L	L	L

Site option selection

Tangy Switching Station

RAG impact rating - cost parameters

Site option	Capital						Operational	
	Construction	Diversions	Public road improvements	Felling	Land assembly	Consent mitigations	Inspections	Maintenance
1	H	L	L	L	H	H	L	L
2	H	L	L	L	H	H	L	L
3	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L

Preferred site
From an environmental perspective, site options 1 or 2 are preferred due to less environmental constraints.

However, site option 3 is preferred from a landscape perspective as the landscape character and visual impacts are lower due to the presence of existing infrastructure.

Site option 3 is preferred from an engineering perspective due to the requirement of a large indoor switching station proving to be expensive and also having a larger carbon footprint.

Although site option 3 has some technical difficulties, such as its position in the 1 in 200-year flood zone, it is still considered that this site option has an overall lower risk.

What else is happening in Argyll?

Development projects

Creag Dhubh to Inveraray 275kV overhead line

This project involves constructing nearly 9km of new 275kV overhead line (OHL), supported by steel lattice towers, between the proposed new substation at Creag Dhubh and a connection point at tower 18 on the recently constructed Inveraray to Crossaig overhead line. The new line will be operated at 275kV once the associated transmission network in the Argyll and Kintyre region has been upgraded to 275kV capability. This will be done one circuit at a time over the summer of 2026 into spring 2027.

Creag Dhubh to Dalmally 275kV connection

We continue to engage with the community in Dalmally regarding the alignment which has been taken forward in our Section 37 application for the Creag Dhubh to Dalmally 275kV Connection. anticipate a decision on the application in summer 2023.

If consented, we foresee construction commencing early 2024.

Argyll and Kintyre 275kV substations – An Suidhe, Crarae, Craig Murrail and Crossaig North

We sought feedback from the public in our pre-application consultation events for the Argyll and Kintyre Substations in December 2021 - January 2022.

SSEN Transmission intends to submit the planning and Section 37 applications for these four substations in summer 2022 with construction anticipated to commence in summer 2024 if the planning applications are successful.

Other projects in the area

Sloy Power Station Substation rebuild

Transmission assets at Sloy Power Station Substation are reaching the end of their operational capabilities and need to be replaced. This project includes construction of a new substation near the existing site, tower and gantry works for connection to the existing overhead line, 11kV cables to be installed to connect back to the power station from the new substation location and removal of existing equipment at the existing substation. The project team are currently identifying potential locations and further information will be shared at future consultation events.

Dunoon overhead line rebuild

The Dunoon overhead line rebuild project is to replace the existing transmission overhead line which connects Dunoon to the wider national grid. The existing overhead line is supported by an old design suite of steel lattice towers (often referred to as pylons) which are coming towards the end of their operational capabilities.

The project is currently in development and following consultation on the preferred route alignment in August 2021, SSEN Transmission plan to submit a Section 37 application for this project in late September 2022.

Glen Falloch and Sloy VISTA

As part of the SSEN Transmission VISTA (Visual Impact of Scottish Transmission Assets) initiative, we have installed a 132kV twin cable section of the existing 132kV double overhead line circuit at Sloy and Glen Falloch. Construction commenced in 2021 and 26 steel towers have been removed.

Wind Farm connection projects

The Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Strategy is required to facilitate renewable generation in Argyll. We also have a requirement to connect this renewable generation to our upgraded infrastructure.

Sheirdrim Wind Farm

This project aims to connect Sheirdrim Wind Farm to the wider electricity network. It also aims to obtain planning permission for the Sheirdrim Wind Farm substation compound.

The substation platform would be the responsibility of Scottish Power (UK) Ltd as the wind farm developer. Consultation on the preferred alignment will be undertaken in late summer 2022.

Blarghour Wind Farm

This project aims to connect the consented Blarghour Wind Farm to the proposed Creag Dhubh substation via approximately 10km of overhead line by spring 2026.

High Constellation Wind Farm Connection

This project aims to connect High Constellation Wind Farm to the existing Crossaig substation via approximately 400m of underground cable by spring 2025

Construction projects

Inveraray – Crossaig reinforcement

This project involves the rebuild of the existing overhead line between Inveraray and Crossaig and has been in construction since late 2019.

Construction of phase 1 of the project (Inveraray to Port Ann) was completed in March 2022, and construction of phase 2 commenced in autumn 2021.

Carradale Substation

The aim of this project is to reinforce Carradale Substation in order to enable renewable generation connection requests.

This involves the replacement of four existing transformers with higher capacity unity to enable this upgraded connection. Work is ongoing and due to be completed by the end of 2022.

Each of our projects are ultimately given their own dedicated project website.

This is where you will find regular, more specific updates regarding the latest news and timelines relating to the individual projects works.

To view the complete list of projects with websites please use the following URL:
https://bit.ly/3MShRoN

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION

How do I have my say?

We understand and recognise the value of the feedback provided by members of the public during all engagements, consultations and events. Without this valuable feedback, the project development team would be unable to progress projects and reach a balanced proposal to submit for planning.

Join our face to face and virtual consultation

Our consultation events have been organised to ensure our project teams will be available to answer questions on the following dates and times:

Tuesday 23rd August 2022
Campbelltown Town Hall, PA28 6AB

Wednesday 24th August 2022
Whitehouse Village Hall, Tarbert PA29 6XR

Our live chat sessions will be held at the following times:
Thursday 25th August 2022, 5pm – 7pm

During this session you will be able to send us your questions using a text chat function and they will be answered by the project team.

We are planning on holding both face to face and virtual events. The face to face events will be subject to the Covid restrictions at the time and will go ahead if appropriate taking into consideration the safety and wellbeing of the communities we are consulting and the project team.

The feedback forms in this booklet can be detached and sent back, or you can fill them in online using the forms on the project webpages. We do request that any feedback that you wish to be included in the report on consultation is received in written format (feedback received via phone calls will be circulated to the project team but would not be included in reporting).

All feedback received will be collated, reviewed and included in the report on consultation which will be published on the project webpages.

Keep in touch

In you have any questions of require further information regarding either of these projects, please do not hesitate to contact the Community Liaison Manager:

Caitlin Quinn Community Liaison Manager

caitlin.quinn@sse.com

M: +44(0)7901 135758

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks,
1 Waterloo St,
Glasgow, G2 6AY

If you are unable to join the face to face and virtual consultation live chat sessions, there are still plenty of ways to engage with our team:

- You can contact us by email, phone or post. Please see details for the Community Liaison Manager.
- We are happy to arrange (virtual) meetings for individuals or small groups to discuss any areas of interest and if this is something you would like us to facilitate, please contact us as soon as possible.
- We are happy to post out copies of this brochure, please contact the Community Liaison Manager to arrange this.

Feedback

As part of the consultation exercise, we are seeking comments back from members of the public, statutory consultees and other key stakeholders.

We kindly request that all comments and feedback forms are received by **Friday 23rd September**.

Further information, should you require it, is available on the project webpage or can be made available in printed format by contacting the Community Liaison Manager.

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

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APPENDIX C – FEEDBACK FORM

Your feedback - Earraghail Wind Farm connection project

If you prefer, the same feedback form is available to complete online and can be found on the project webpage:
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project/
Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**.

Q1 **Has the need for the project been adequately explained?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, please tell us how we could provide further explanation

Q2 **Has the approach taken to select the preferred route been adequately explained?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, please tell us how we could provide further explanation

Q3 **Are there any factors, or environmental features, that you consider may have been overlooked during the preferred route selection process?**

Q4 **Do you feel, on balance, that the preferred route selected is the most appropriate for further consideration at the alignment selection stage? Please provide an explanation of your answer.**

Q5 **If you don't agree to our preferred route which of the options would you consider the best option for SSEN Transmission to develop? Please provide an explanation of your answer.**

Your feedback

Full name

Address

Telephone

Email

If you would like to be kept informed of progress on the project please tick this box. ☐

If you would like your comments to remain anonymous please tick this box. ☐

Thank you for taking the time to complete this feedback form.

Please submit your completed form by one of the methods below:

Post: Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission, 1 Waterloo St, Glasgow, G2 6AY

Email: caitlin.quinn@sse.com

The feedback forms and all information provided in this booklet can also be downloaded from the dedicated website:

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/earraghail-wind-farm-connection-project

www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/tangy-iv-wind-farm-connection-project

Any information given on the feedback form can be used and published anonymously as part of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission consultation report. By completing this feedback form you consent to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission using feedback for this purpose.