



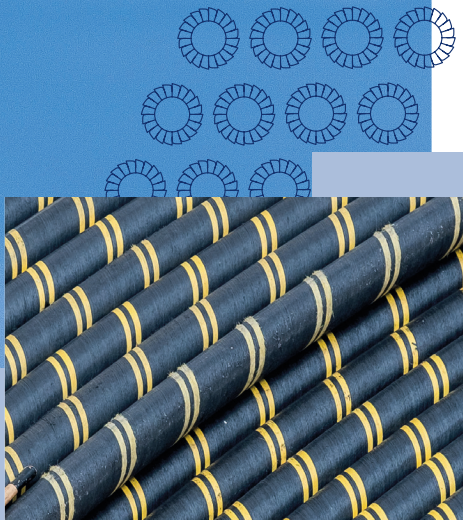
Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Eastern Green Link 5 (EGL5) underground land cable

Information event

June 2026



ssen-transmission.co.uk/eastern-green-link-5

Project Summary

SSEN Transmission and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET), are developing a joint venture project Eastern Green Link 5 (EGL5) which will carry up to 2GW of clean energy—enough to power two million homes. The project aims to ensure the efficient and effective connection and transmission of offshore wind in support of Scottish and UK Government clean energy and energy security ambitions.

The EGL5 project will use the latest technology to provide a 2GW bi-pole, 525kV High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) link between Aberdeenshire and the Lincolnshire area in England. This will enable the efficient transmission of high volumes of power which can then be further distributed to demand centres throughout the UK, as required.

Connections between these assets will be via HVDC cables buried either underground or below the seabed. In Scotland, the length of the land cables corridor would be approximately 10km between the Netherton Hub located to the west of Peterhead, and the landfall. The length of the offshore cables would be approximately 153km in Scottish waters and 412km in English Waters. SSEN Transmission is responsible for obtaining the relevant consents in Scotland and in Scottish waters with NGET responsible for consents on the English section.

In Scotland, under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order

1992, onshore underground cable works are classed as 'Permitted Development' and therefore, do not require a planning application to the Local Authority.

The subsea portion of the HVDC cable is subject to a marine licence subject to a statutory consultation process, and we will be holding a further marine consultation prior to submission of the application. Consultation for the Eastern Green Link 5 converter station site at Netherton Hub has already occurred, and a application for Planning Permission in Principle was granted by Aberdeenshire Council in September 2025.



This booklet provides details of our latest routing of the underground cable, and we invite residents and stakeholders to contact us with information that you feel we should consider as we continue to refine this aspect of the project.

Our Eastern Green Link 5 project webpage can be found at: ssen-transmission.co.uk/eastern-green-link-5/



Project Summary

The story so far

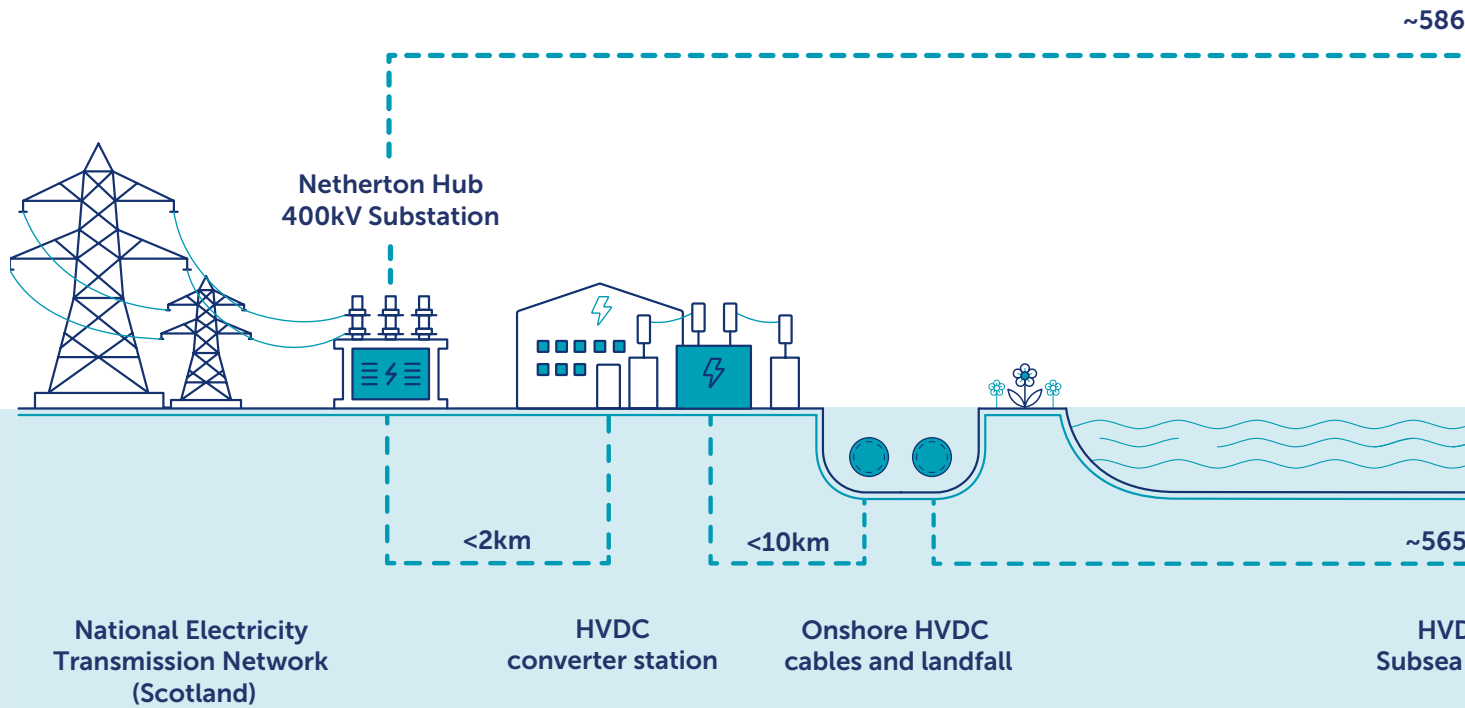
April 2025 The identification of suitable landfalls in Aberdeenshire gets underway.

November 2025 We presented the proposed 500m-wide land cable route options from our preferred landfall at Scotstown beach South to our connection point at the Nethererton Hub, at Longside & Peterhead Football Clubs.

Next steps

July – September 2026 Carry out ground investigations to inform us of the suitability of ground conditions for the cable installation.

September - December 2026 Carry out the refinement of the land cable route to an approximate 50m wide construction corridor.

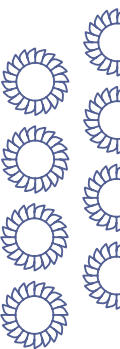
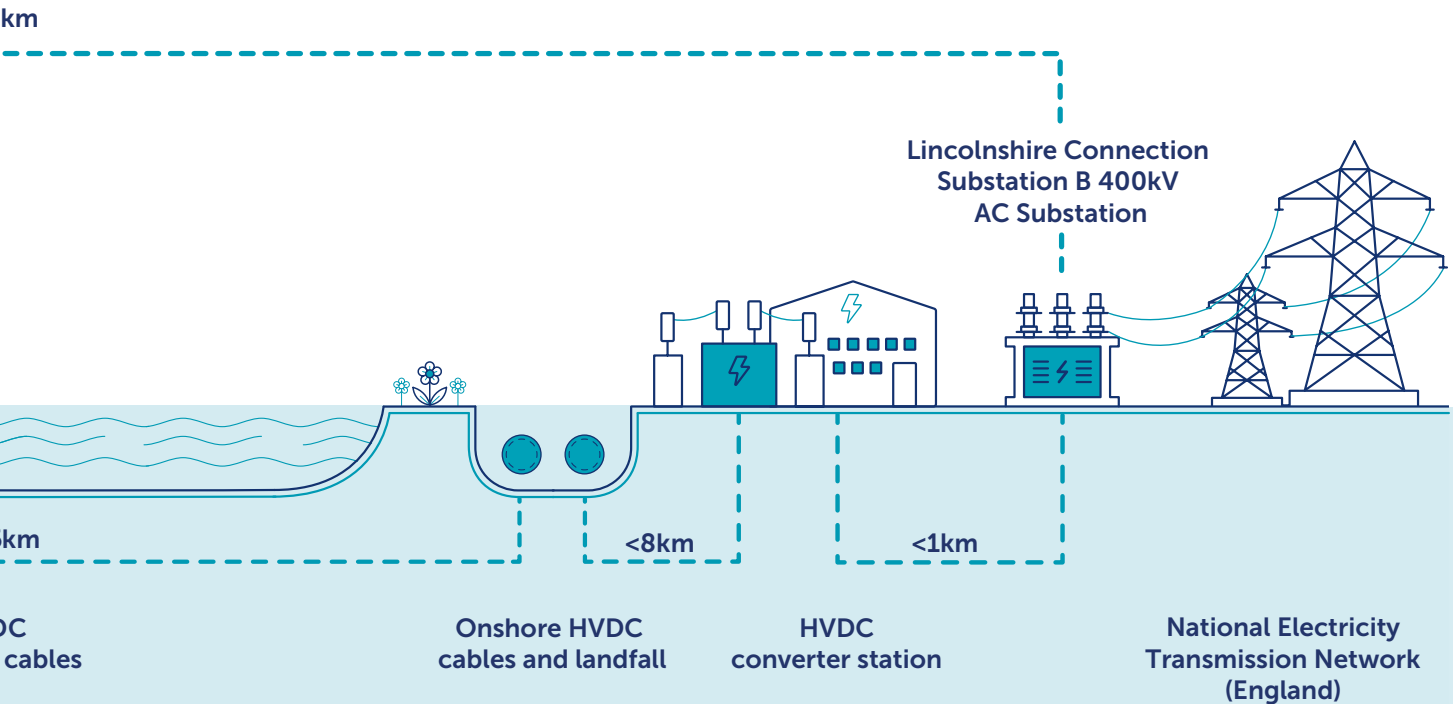


Why we're here today

Our development of the land cable routes has seen us progress from conceptual route corridors over 1km wide linking our connection point at Netherton Hub to multiple landfall locations. This has led us to refine our alignments to 100m wide.

Reaching this stage has required extensive collaboration with principal stakeholders, including landowners, tenants, and statutory authorities. We are now preparing to conduct comprehensive ground investigations, together with ongoing environmental assessments of the route, to confirm its suitability and further refine a construction corridor.

Although the underground cable works are classed as Permitted Development, and do not require a planning application to the Local Authority, or a formal consultation process, we still consider it important to offer all our stakeholders the opportunity to consider our plans and provide feedback. We welcome your questions or comments on anything that should be brought to the attention of the project team. While not all feedback can be acted upon, it is always considered.



Determining the onshore cable routes

We first shared information about Eastern Green Link 5's onshore works in November 2025. The map in figure 1 below shows the three approximately 500m wide route options connecting the least constrained landfall at Scotstown Beach South to the Nethererton Hub connection point.

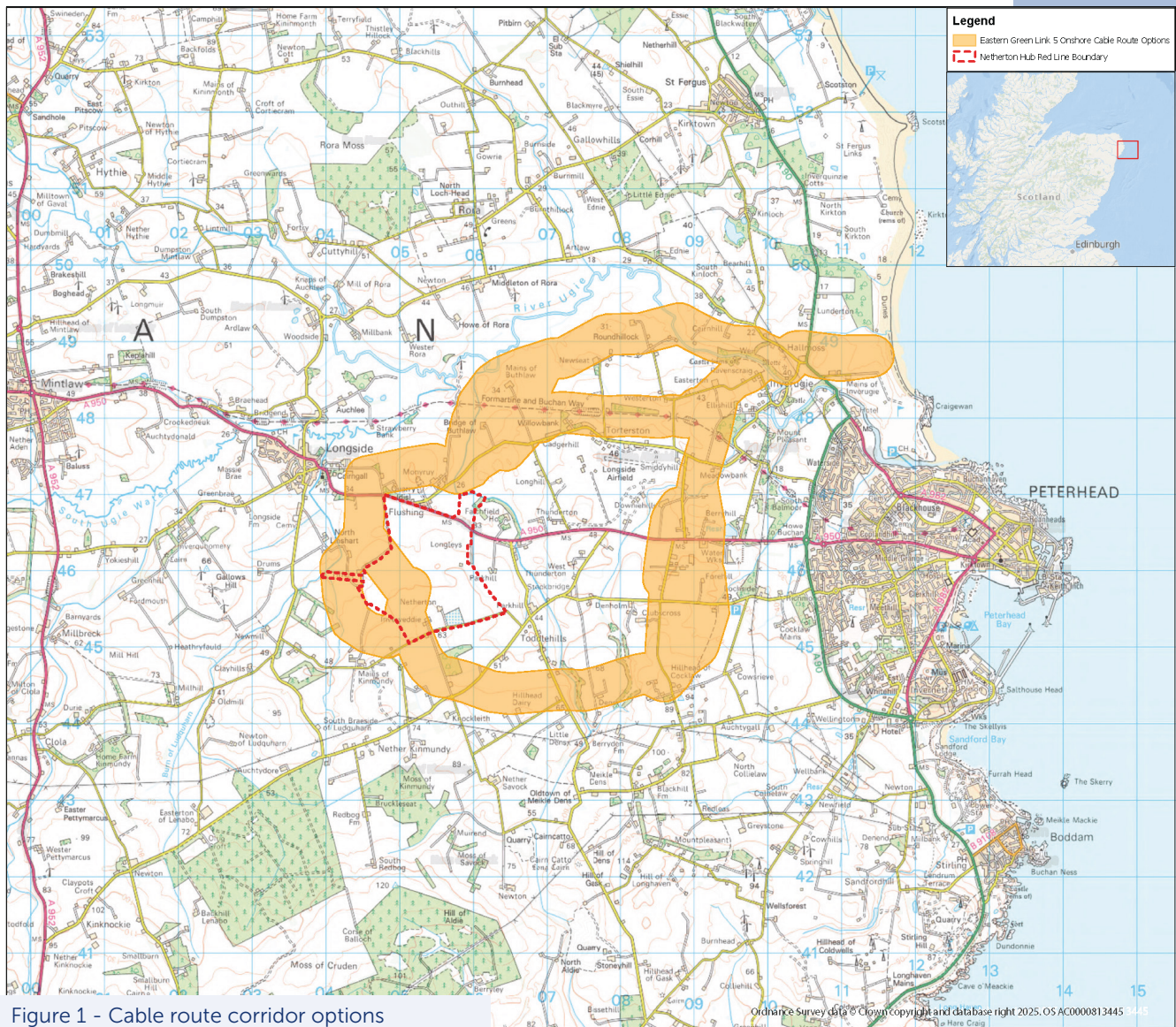


Figure 1 - Cable route corridor options presented at consultation in November 2025.

Our Current Cable Route

The map in figure 2 below shows the refinement of our 500m route options to our current approximately 100m wide cable route following public engagement (consultation event held in November 2025) and landowner discussions.

The land cable will connect into a new converter station within the consented Nethererton Hub.

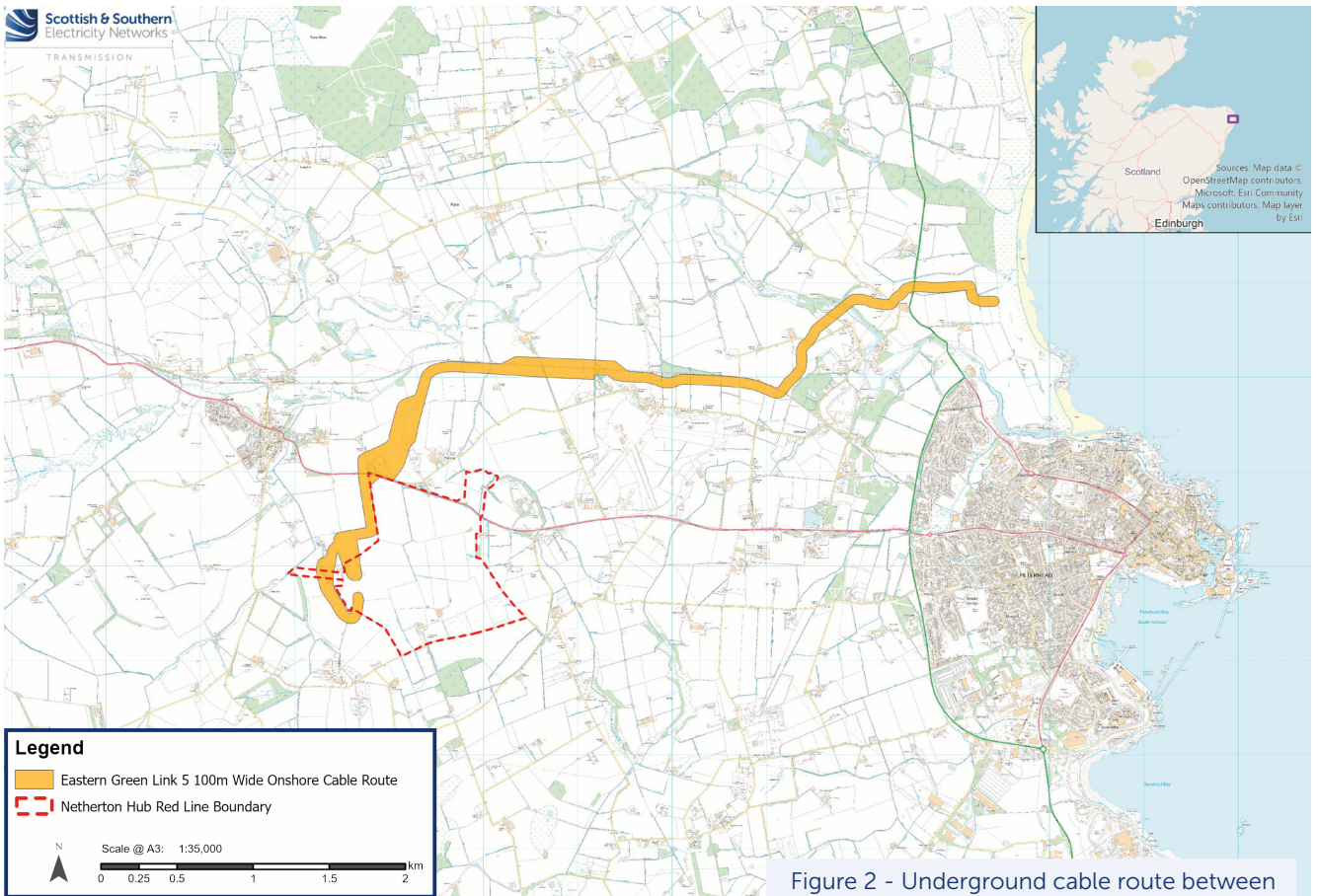


Figure 2 - Underground cable route between Nethererton Hub and Scotstown Beach South



Visit: ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/eastern-green-link-5/ or scan the QR code to access the large-scale maps of our cable alignments.

Onshore cable route construction methods

The project is still in early development, with further refinement of the onshore cable routing occurring over the next 12 months. Detailed design would follow this, however at this stage the following construction methods are anticipated, with construction of the onshore cable installation to begin no earlier than 2029.

Access

Prior to any cable installation, accesses will be formed from public roads where required. Some of these accesses may be retained permanently with the majority are expected to be temporary. From these accesses a temporary road of either stone or matting will be created allowing the cable trench to be excavated.

Open Cut Trench

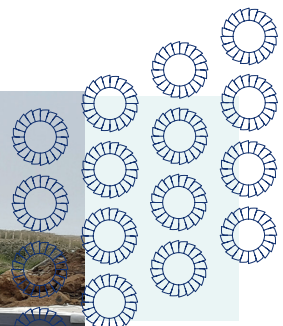
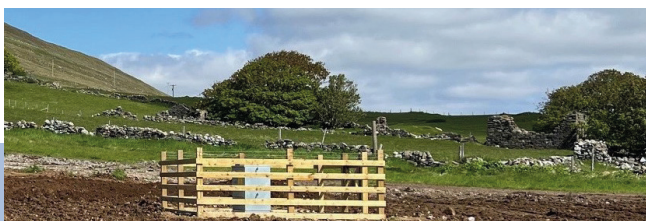
Most of the cable route is anticipated to be an open cut trench. A trench is excavated, to allow a series of ducts for each of the assets to be laid side by side and then surrounded in a robust backfill material to protect them from any external forces they may encounter. Following installation of the ducts, the surface of the ground is reinstated.

Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD)

In some more technically challenging areas, such as crossings of existing assets (e.g. gas pipelines and trunk roads) or environmentally sensitive habitats such as rivers, an alternative method for installing cabling known as HDD (Horizontal Directional Drilling) may be utilised. Where necessary to HDD, it is the intention to drill and insert ducts at greater depths minimising impact to the environment. Following installation, at localised drilling locations the surface of the ground is reinstated.

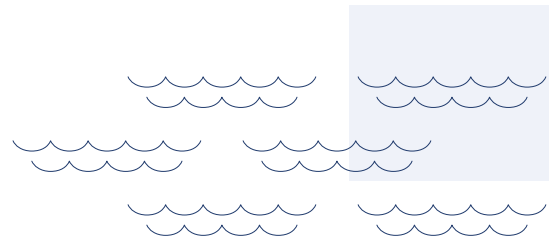
Cable Joint Bays

Along the route there will be areas where each of the cable sections will be jointed. In these areas there will be open excavations where each cable will enter the duct and pulled via a winch to the next joint bay. Once cables have been jointed and the system has been tested, these joint bays will also be backfilled and reinstated. In some instances, there will be a permanent link box above ground contained within a fenced area.





Environmental considerations



Throughout the development of the cable route, including the initial identification of suitable corridors and the ongoing refinement process, the sensitivity of the environment is a key consideration for the project.

Various surveys looking for the presence of protected species and habitats including bats, otters, water vole, birds etc, are being undertaken and where identified these areas have been considered as constraints that the project has tried to avoid.

It is imperative that the project mitigates any impacts that it is likely to have through construction methods.

We have chosen our proposed route as it has the least constraints across engineering, environment and land topics. Specifically, we avoid designated Ancient Woodland and reduce the number of complex infrastructure crossings.

We will be carrying out a voluntary environmental assessment to understand any environmental impacts from installing and operating the underground cable and mitigation measures that will be in place during construction and operation of the scheme.

Many of these mitigations require input from our contract partners and the specifics of how we will manage the installation in these areas remains under consideration.

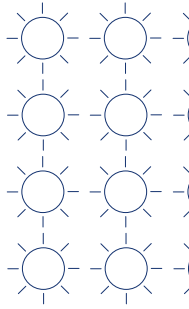
The nature of our cable installation means that although we will create some short-term disruption to the land, the design allows the ground reinstatement to minimise any impact.

As we expand the transmission network in the north of Scotland, we have a responsibility to design and build our projects to protect and enhance the environment.



Scan this QR code to read more about our approach to Sustainability. ssen-transmission.co.uk/about-us/sustainability/





Engineering considerations

There are various engineering aspects to take into consideration when developing a cable route. Whilst there are different techniques to install cables there are still preferences to de-risk the installation, to minimise impact to the environment and to ensure a quality asset that will meet the intended lifespan.

Our ground investigation works give particularly good information for us to decide what method we choose and the route we take.

Below are some examples of technical challenges we take into consideration:

- **Cable bending radius**

The cables have limited bending ability so sharp angles either on the horizontal or vertical axis can cause problems when installing and if the design parameters are exceeded, there is a risk to the cable integrity.

- **Thermal properties of soils**

All electricity cables generate heat to some extent. If the soils around the cable do not allow the heat to dissipate then this can impact on the ability to run the cable at its intended capacity.

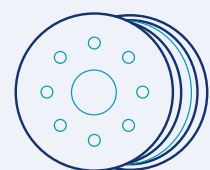
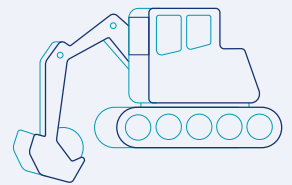
- **Ground conditions**

It is typically favoured to put a cable through arable farmland as this is usually the best soil conditions with enough soil to bury in. If we encounter shallow rock for example, this means we will need to do more work to get the ducts and cables in the ground.

- **Access** The project will require large vehicles to carry plant and the cable drums. Access into the cable site can be limiting so where possible we try to stay close to main roads where access can be easier achieved without causing issues on minor or single-track roads.

- **Drilling**

In areas such as utility or river crossings where we anticipate Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) is required, we must consider the available area of land for drilling platforms, the ground conditions for drilling and the angle of the drill to crossing the utility. In some cases (e.g. gas pipelines), it is important that crossings are close to a 90-degree angle to minimise any impact.



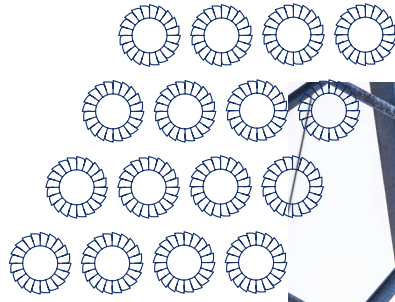
Working with landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders

Throughout the corridor selection and route refinement journey we have had numerous discussions with landowners, tenants, residents and other stakeholders directly impacted. It remains important to have all our stakeholders up to date on our progress, to be engaged in our discussions and to understand any concerns or issues that they may have, allowing us the opportunity to address these issues in whatever way is appropriate. These ongoing discussions are key to us finding a route that is acceptable to all and allows voluntary agreements to be reached.



More information on how we work with landowners is available at ssen-transmission.co.uk/landowners-and-occupiers or by scanning this QR code.





We understand that works of this nature can be disruptive to the local community, and we are committed to keeping local residents informed, which is why we are sharing the latest cable routing today.



Information on our project's progress can be found at the following webpage:

ssen-transmission.co.uk/eastern-green-link-5



If you have questions

If you would like to be kept informed about this project, please register using the "Register for Project updates" section on our project webpage.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information booklet. If you have any questions about the project or information that you believe would assist the planning and delivery of this project, then please email or write to the Community Liaison Manager by **22 July 2026**.



Community Liaison Manager Natalie Henderson

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 @sentransmission  SSENTransmission

Additional information



The best way to keep up to date is to sign up to project updates via the project webpage:
ssen-transmission.co.uk/eastern-green-link-5



To support everyone online, we provide accessibility and language options on our website through 'Recite Me'. The accessibility and language support options provided by 'Recite Me' include text-to-speech functionality, fully customisable styling features, reading aids, and a translation tool with over 100 languages, including 35 text-to-speech.

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