Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Final Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Events

March 2025

Contents

The events will be taking place on:

Monday 3 March, 2–7pm
Drumlithie Village Hall, Station Road,
Drumlithie, AB39 3YT

Wednesday 5 March, 3–7pm
Strachan Village Hall, Strachan, Banchory, AB31 6LG

Powering change together

The time has come to further enhance Scotland's energy infrastructure, providing power for future generations as we move towards net zero.

The shift to a cleaner, more sustainable future is about more than climate change. It's about ensuring future generations have the same opportunities to thrive as we have all had.

Countries around the world are investing in their energy infrastructure to support the demands of modern economies and meet net zero targets. The UK is leading the way in building a modern, sustainable energy system for the future.

We all have a part to play

When it comes to net zero, we have to be in it together. The UK and Scottish governments have ambitious net zero targets, and we're playing our part in meeting them.

We work closely with the National Energy System Operator (NESO) to connect vast renewable energy resources—harnessed by solar, wind, hydro and marine generation—to areas of demand across the country. Scotland is playing a big role in meeting this demand, exporting two thirds of power generated in our network.

But there is more to be done. By 2050, the north of Scotland is predicted to contribute over 50GW of low carbon energy to help deliver net zero. Today, our region has around 9GW of renewable generation connected to the network.

At SSEN Transmission, it is our role to build the energy system of the future.

We are investing over £20 billion into our region's energy infrastructure this decade, with the potential for this to increase to over £30bn. This investment will deliver a network capable of meeting 20% of the UK's Clean Power 2030 target and supporting up to 37,000 jobs, 17,500 of which will be here in Scotland.

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to find out more about how these policies have been assessed and determined.

Who we are

We are responsible for maintaining and investing in the electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland. We're part of SSE plc, one of the world's leading energy companies with a rich heritage in Scotland that dates back more than 80 years. We are also closely regulated by the GB energy regulator Ofgem, who determines how much revenue we are allowed to earn for constructing, maintaining and renovating our transmission network.

What we do

We manage the electricity network across our region which covers a quarter of the UK's land mass, crossing some of the country's most challenging terrain.
We connect renewable energy sources to our network in the north of Scotland and then transport it to where it needs to be. From underground/subsea cables and overhead lines to electricity substations, our network keeps your lights on all year round.

Working with you

We understand that the work we do can have an impact on communities. So we are committed to minimising our impacts and maximising all the benefits that our developments can bring to your area. We are regularly assessed by global sustainability consultancy AccountAbility for how we engage with communities. That means we provide all the information you need to know about our plans and how they will impact communities like yours. The way we consult is also a two-way street. We want to hear people's views, concerns, or ideas and harness local knowledge so that our work benefits their communities: today and long into the future. You can share your views with us at:
ssen-transmission.co.uk/talk-to-us/contact-us

Project need and overview

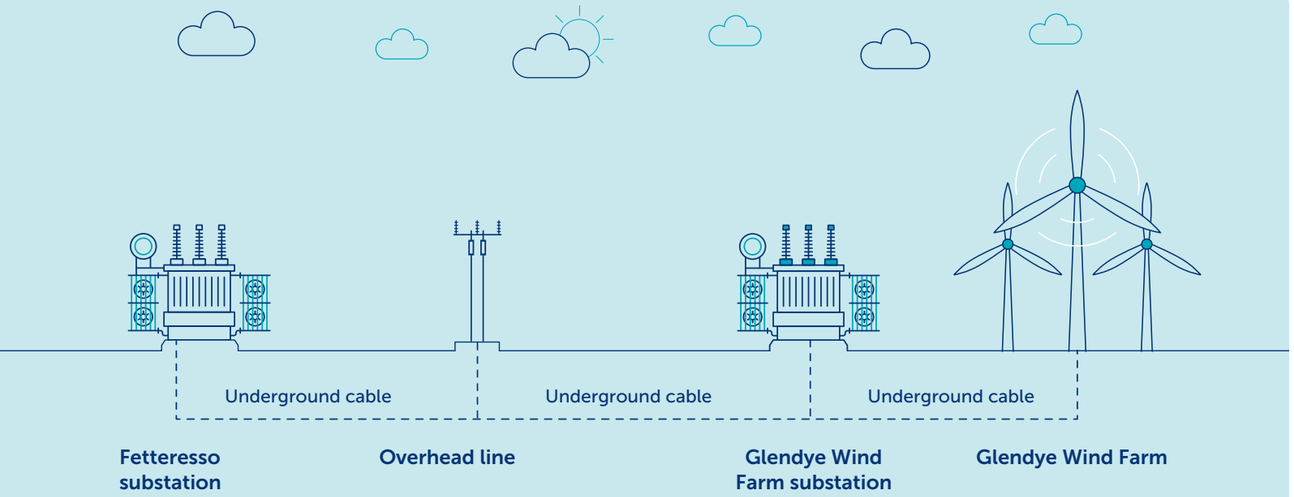
As the transmission licence holder in the north of Scotland, we have a duty under Section 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 to facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity. We have obligations to offer non-discriminatory terms for connection to the transmission system, both for new generation and for new sources of electricity demand.

The Glendye Wind Farm has received section 36 consent and we are required to connect the development to the transmission network. To facilitate this, we are proposing to construct a new 132kV overhead line from the substation at the wind farm approximately 8km North West of Fettercairn, to the existing Fetteresso substation. Under our Network Operator's Licence this connection should be efficient, coordinated and economic, whilst having the least possible impact on the environment.

The proposal is a single circuit 132kV steel trident pole arrangement, as shown in the image, supporting the overhead line (OHL) running over a distance of approximately 19 kilometers in length. Sections of 132kV underground cable (UGC) will be required at either end of the overhead line, totalling approximately 2 kilometers in total. A number of new permanent and temporary access tracks will also be required.

The average height of the trident pole is 13 meters, with an average span of approximately 100 meters. Traffic management will be required during construction and consultation will be undertaken on this in due course.

*Diagram not to scale, for illustration purposes only



The consenting process

The legislation governing the consenting of overhead line (OHL) projects in Scotland is the Electricity Act 1989. Applications for consent to construct and operate new overhead lines are made under Section 37 of this Act and are referred to as "Section 37 Consents".

The Section 37 application will be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, as well as standalone reports such as a planning statement, and detailed design drawings. A Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report will also be provided, and this will provide details of the public and stakeholder consultation undertaken, a summary of the feedback received, and our response to that feedback.

We plan to submit our Section 37 application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in Summer 2025.

Once an application for consent has been submitted, all documents relating to the submission will be made publicly available on the ECU portal and our own website. Printed copies will also be available at publicly accessible locations. There will be an opportunity for the public to make formal representations to the ECU before a recommendation is made by them to the Scottish Ministers for a decision.

Please note that feedback provided as part of this final alignment consultation event are not formal representations to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU). Once an application for consent has been submitted, there will be an opportunity for the public to make formal representations to the ECU before it takes a decision.

We will update stakeholders once the application for consent has been submitted and we will also publish newspaper advertisements to inform local communities and the general public of the applications being made to Scottish Ministers.

Determining a Section 37 application and communicating outcomes

Section 37 applications are determined on a case-by-case basis by the Scottish Ministers.

We anticipate to receiving a decision on the consent application within 12 months from the application date, however timescales may vary.

When a decision is made, the ECU will send us a decision notice, copying in the local planning authorities and other consultation bodies. The decision notice is a record of the reasons for the decision and, if consent is granted, it contains the conditions that must be satisfied in order to implement the consent.

The ECU and local planning authority will publish the decision notice via their own channels, and we must publicise the outcome on our website, in the Edinburgh Gazette, and in a local newspaper. We'll also communicate the decision by mainstream media and other various means, including email updates to Elected Members and those signed up to project updates, social media, and press releases.

Read more here about the Section 37 process here

The story so far

Feb 24

We first introduced this project in February 2024, consulting on route option corridors for the overhead line.

April 24

The consultation closed on **18 April 2024**, with over **40** written responses received.

July 24

We published a Report on Consultation, confirming our proposed route and showing how the option taken forward to the next stage has been informed by this process.

Oct 24

We held a further series of public consultations where we presented our potential alignment options as well as alternative alignment options in some sections and sought feedback on these proposals.

Nov 24

The consultation closed on **21 November 2024**, with over **27** written responses received.

Feb – Mar 25

Following consideration of the feedback received during our 2024 engagement and further studies and survey work, we published our Alignment Selection Report on Consultation in February 2025. Within the Alignment Selection Report on Consultation, we confirmed the Proposed Alignment that we will look to take forward in our consent application.

Final pre-application consultation (PAC) events will be held in March 2025.

Why we are here today

We are at the alignment stage of the development of our Glendye Wind Farm Connection Overhead Line project and have identified the Proposed Alignment we are taking forward to further develop and submit as part of an application for consent. The Proposed Alignment has been refined from the various options that we have investigated during the development of the project.

We are implementing the Scottish Government's Best Practice Guidance for pre-application consultation with stakeholders who may be affected by our development proposals. The pre-application consultation comprises two consultation events that should be held in advance of applying for Section 37 consent.

Our Alignment Selection Stage consultation events were held in October 2024, where we presented the Potential Alignment option and variants. Following these events, we considered stakeholder feedback, completed further surveys and review of our appraisals, and identified the Proposed Alignment, which is the alignment we intend to take forward to a Section 37 application.

These second events present further detail on the Proposed Alignment and provide feedback to stakeholders in respect of comments they have provided on the proposals. Detailed feedback is also provided in the Alignment Selection Report on Consultation.

Prior to the pre-application consultations, we held public consultations in February 2024 on the routeing stages of our project development. These consultations were in addition to the pre-application consultation events and the feedback received has been fundamental in shaping the design of the Proposed Alignment that we are now presenting.

We will provide updated 3D visualisations and maps to show what the proposed overhead line will look like and where it will be located. These are available to view and download from our project website: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye**.

It should be noted that our alignment proposals presented at this consultation are the result of extensive engagement and project design, as such, there is limited scope to make significant changes to the proposals at this stage.

Scan the QR code to access the Scottish Government's Best Practice Guidance

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Working with you

The work we have planned is significant and has the potential to deliver wide ranging benefits in your community, Scotland, and beyond. We know that delivering our projects will require a lot of work that has the potential to impact on you. That's why we want to work with you at every step of the way throughout the planning and delivery stages of these essential works. We are committed to ensuring a meaningful engagement process that actively seeks the views of everyone affected by our plans. That means making our plans clear and easily accessible, so that you can give us input throughout each stage of the development process. We appreciate all feedback received to date which has been analysed by the project team. Feedback has been actioned where constraints allow. A more detailed appraisal of feedback regarding our alignment, can be accessed via our Alignment Selection Report on Consultation, published February 2025.

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Selecting an alignment

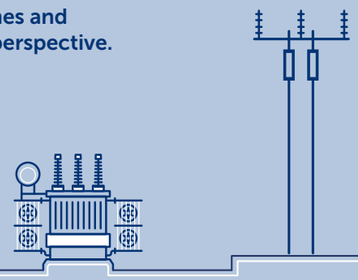
The consideration of alignment options and design solutions brings together work by four main disciplines:

Engineering Team

Who identify engineering constraints and where overhead lines and cables can be installed from a construction and operational perspective.

Key considerations include:

- Infrastructure crossings
- Environmental design
- Ground conditions
- Accessibility
- Proximity to existing infrastructure and properties



Environmental Team

Who identify key environmental, community and social constraints along the routes which the new infrastructure could impact upon.

Key considerations include:

- Engagement with statutory consultees and planning authorities
- Results of specialist environmental surveys including archaeology, ornithology, ecology, geology and hydrology
- International environmental designations including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs - designated for habitats), Special Protected Areas (SPAs - designated for bird species), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance identified under the terms of the Ramsar Convention) and World Heritage Sites
- National designations including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, National Scenic areas, National Nature Reserves, Gardens and Designed Landscapes
- Regional environmental sensitivities including Wild Land Areas and Special Landscape Areas
- Local environmental aspects including visual amenity, local and RSPB nature reserves, recreation uses

Communities Team

Who work with communities and make sure that their feedback during the consultation process is closely considered during project refinement.

Key considerations include:

- Community engagement
- Consultation responses review
- Recreational areas and areas of local interest

Land Team

Who engage with landowners to identify key land use constraints.

Key considerations include:

- Landowner engagement
- Mitigating effects of infrastructure on land and properties
- Reaching land agreements

Striking a balance

When selecting an alignment, we need to carefully balance key considerations relating to engineering, environment, cost and social aspects, in each section of the overhead line route. We then consider the likely effect and level of impact of each consideration, which will vary from section to section.

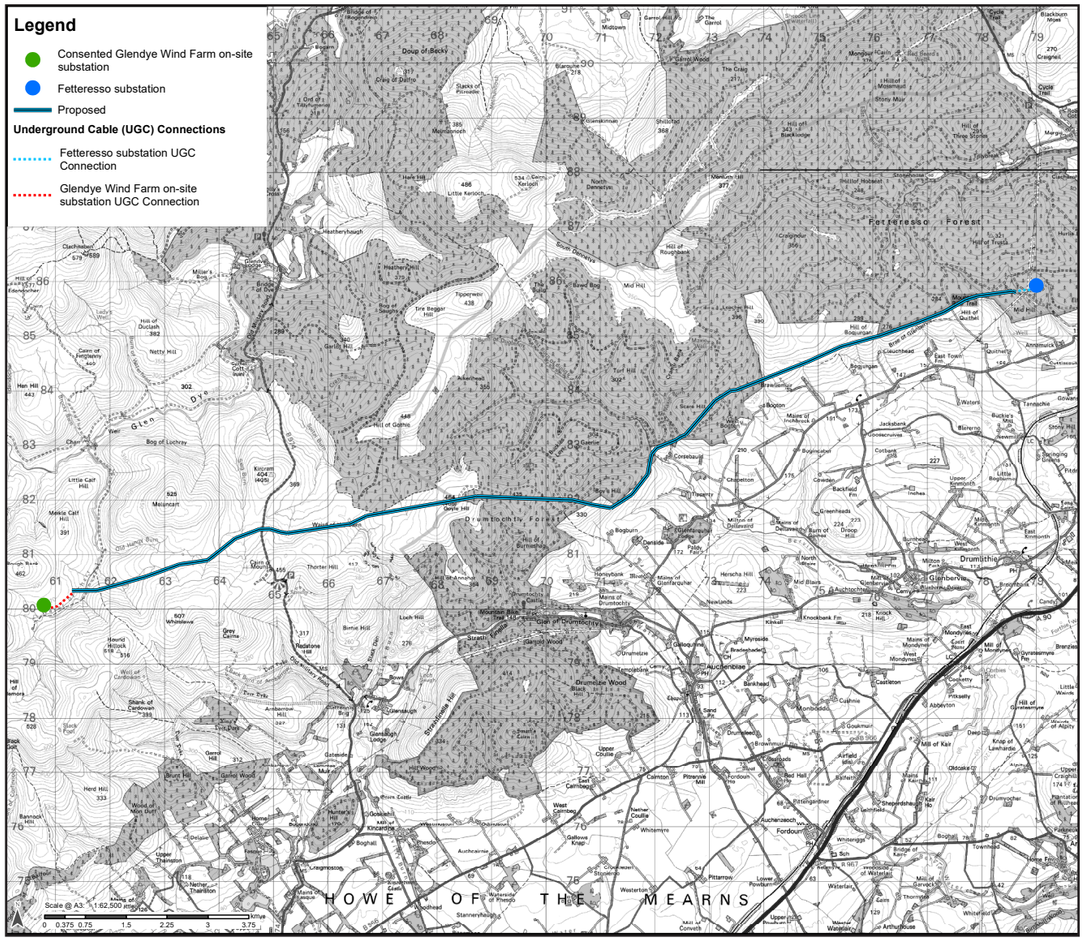
This can be based on how populated the area is, the outcomes of environmental and engineering surveys, the presence of peat, the local water environment, if there is existing infrastructure we need to avoid, if the effects on land and property can be mitigated and if a constructable alignment can be identified.

Ultimately, we need to balance a range of factors and present the solution we consider most viable, to then put forward for consultation. We consulted on our Potential Alignment in October 2024 and have now confirmed the alignment option we were taking forward as the Proposed Alignment within our Alignment Selection Report on Consultation published in February 2025.

Our Alignment Selection Report on Consultation details the consultation responses received as part of our alignment consultation process for the project and where appropriate, shows how the Proposed Alignment being taken forward to consent has been informed by this process. This can be downloaded from the project webpage or viewed during the events.

Scan the QR code to view our Report on Consultation

Proposed Alignment overview map



About the overhead line

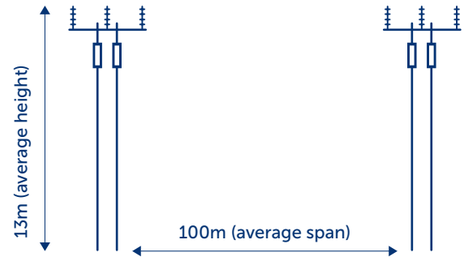
132kV single circuit overhead line

The required technology for the new 132kV connection between the proposed Glendye 132kV substation and Fetteresso 275kV substation has been determined to be a new single circuit 132kV HVAC (High Voltage Alternating Current) overhead line.

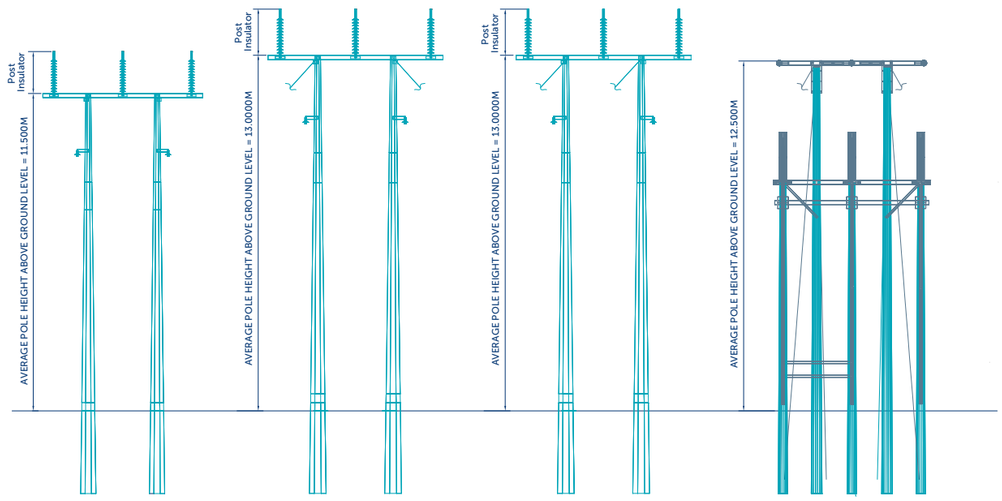
The overhead line would consist of Earthed Steel Trident (EaST) supports, with nominal heights of approx. 13m. Each support would comprise two steel poles and a linking steel crossarm, which would support three UPAS conductors and an underslung high strength earthwire. Stay wires are attached at 45° gradient (unless other gradients are justified) to all angle supports, and also to the intermediate supports where necessary.

The span between the structures is approx. 100m on average. The pole height and the distance between them are subject to deviations depending on several factors, such as altitude, climatic conditions and topography.

Two short sections of 132kV underground cable (UGC) will be required as the Proposed Development leaves Glendye Wind Farm on-site-substation, as well as on the final approach to Fetteresso substation, given the presence of wind turbines and electrical infrastructure at these points. A terminal structure consisting of wooden poles will be required to facilitate the transition between OHL and UGC.



Please note, this graphic is an indicative representation of the standard height and not average height of each tower type. This is because the average height depends on the specific topography encountered by each overhead line.



132kV EaST INTERMEDIATE POLE

132kV EaST ANGLE POLE (0°-15°)

132kV EaST ANGLE POLE (15°-45°)

132kV TERMINAL WOOD POLE

Additional works required as part of the construction of the new overhead line include:

- Upgrade of existing and creation of new access tracks, described in more detail on the next page;
- Vegetation clearance and management;

  Temporary working areas around the proposed tower locations to facilitate construction;
- At some tower locations, the formation of temporary flat areas from which the conductors (wires) will be pulled through during construction. These areas will contain earthed metal working surfaces referred to as Equipotential Zones (EPZs);
- Other temporary measures required during construction, such as measures to protect roads, railways and water crossings during construction (e.g. scaffolding);
- Temporary construction compounds will also be required at locations along the overhead line route. The final location and design of temporary site compounds will be confirmed by our Contractor and separate planning consents will be sought as required.

Operational Corridor

The development of the Proposed Alignment has sought to avoid and minimise impacts on woodlands and forestry where possible, however due to part of the project area being forested, impacts on forestry are unavoidable. Where the proposed overhead line alignment passes through areas of woodland and commercial forestry, an Operational Corridor is identified to ensure the safe operation of the overhead line. Trees are removed within the Operational Corridor to facilitate construction and ensure continued safe operation of the overhead line. The width of the operational corridor will vary depending on the type of woodland or forestry and local topography but will typically require a width of 45m either side of the overhead line centreline in coniferous woodland. This may be reduced to 30m either side in broadleaved woodland subject to site specific checks. The required operational corridor through each area of woodland will be confirmed within our Section 37 consent application, following completion of ongoing woodland assessments. The construction of the project will result in a loss of woodland area. In accordance with the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy, we are committed to providing appropriate compensatory planting for any net loss of woodland. The extent, location and composition of compensatory planting will be agreed with Scottish Forestry and the local authority.

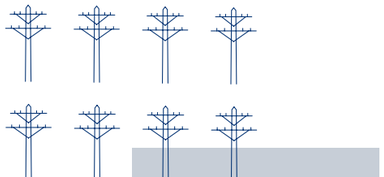
Limits of Deviation

The Limits of Deviation (LoD) comprise an area which defines the practical limits within which micrositing of the overhead line infrastructure and access tracks can be sited and construction can be undertaken within the terms of the Section 37 consent. The location of the proposed tower positions, access tracks and associated temporary and permanent infrastructure (as illustrated on the maps provided) has been determined based on environmental and technical considerations, including engineering analysis of ground conditions and suitability based on desk studies and site walkover surveys. Investigation of sub-surface and geotechnical conditions at the proposed tower locations has not yet been completed. It is therefore possible that individual tower locations, working areas and access tracks may be subject to minor changes in position post determination of the S37 application and completion of geotechnical investigations (referred to as micro siting).

To strike a balance between providing certainty of the location of the proposed development and any environmental impacts, and the need for some flexibility over individual tower locations, the horizontal and vertical LoD need to be defined within which the proposed development will be constructed. No towers or working areas would be located outside the proposed LoD.
As we develop our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and undertake more detailed design work, we are working to identify the exact LoD required for the project, based on site-specific environmental constraints and engineering considerations. At this time, we have allowed for a horizontal LoD of up to 100m on either side of the alignment centreline, extending to 200m around angle tower positions, where larger temporary working areas will be required. A vertical LoD of ±9m is likely to be sought for the proposed tower heights, to ensure that minimum statutory ground clearances can be maintained once further engineering design work has been completed.

Temporary overhead line diversions

One temporary overhead line diversion will also be needed to enable the changes to existing overhead lines (realignments, diversions and crossings), to allow for continued operation of the electricity network during the construction works. The temporary diversion will require the construction of temporary towers or poles, onto which the existing overhead line conductors (wires) will be moved. Once the main construction works have been completed, the temporary towers will be dismantled and the surrounding areas reinstated.



Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Our access strategy

Constructing and maintaining our overhead line

We are currently developing our access strategy, which considers access requirements for construction and maintenance of the overhead line. Access requirements have also informed the Proposed Alignment selection process, as a key engineering consideration. We are now determining the proposed access routes for each tower location to establish which existing access tracks need to be upgraded alongside locations for the installation of new temporary or permanent access tracks. Maps showing our current plans for access are available on the project website, and further information on our access strategy will be provided in the EIA as part of the application for Section 37 consent.

A detailed traffic and transport assessment will form part of the EIA, which assesses potential impacts of construction traffic and the capacity of local roads to accommodate this traffic. A Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) will be agreed with the local authorities prior to works commencing.

We have commissioned an experienced OHL contractor, enabling construction access considerations to be at the forefront of this stage in the design process.

The table below explains the different types of tracks that are typically considered and what they are required for.

Type of access	What does it mean?
Existing tracks and bellmouths	In general, proposed construction site access would be taken via the existing public road network and would make use of existing forest and estate tracks as far as practicable, upgraded as required. Existing bellmouths would be utilised where possible, subject to improvements. New bellmouths will however still be required at several locations.
Stone tracks	Typically, new temporary stone tracks are likely to be required to access each steel tower location, as well as the requirement for inline access between towers. Stone tracks are designed to suit the heavy plant loads required for construction works for steel towers, and to suit the varied ground conditions along the route. On completion of construction, unless required for operational access, the stone tracks would be removed and the original material reinstated. Where access to tower positions is difficult due to steep terrain, alternative methods would be proposed such as using smaller items of plant, specialist tracked plant, and in some cases using helicopters for moving materials.
Access tracks	Where operational access is required, this would likely range from All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) routes with no formal track, to stone road suitable for 4x4 and wagon access. The selection of the type of track required (whether it be temporary or permanent, existing upgraded tracks or new tracks) will consider the proximity to a public road, environmental impacts, structure type, required vehicle use, and potential maintenance activities, including vehicles required in future to a given location (taking health and safety requirements into account). General access track details will be included in the EIA stage of the project and presented to illustrate where each access type will be deployed, and the rationale for that selection.
Public road improvements	Public road improvements (PRI) will be required in some locations to facilitate construction traffic travelling along existing public roads. These works could include upgrades such as road widening, installation of temporary or permanent passing places, new or upgraded road junctions, and upgrades to or replacement of existing bridges. Further information on PRI works will be provided in the EIA as part of the application for Section 37 consent.

Addressing feedback

Consulting on the alignment

In October 2024, we launched our Alignment Consultation, seeking comment on the Potential Alignments options and variants identified for the new 132kV overhead line connection proposed to connect the Glendye Wind Farm to the transmission network.

We sought comments from statutory authorities, key stakeholders, elected representatives, the public and landowners on the alignment selection process undertaken and the Potential Alignment options and variants. Comments received then informed further consideration of the Potential Alignment with a view to confirming a Proposed Alignment to be taken forward to consent application.

Our Report on Consultation (ROC)

A detailed appraisal of feedback received in response to our alignment as presented during the October 2024 consultation can be accessed via our Alignment Selection Report on Consultation, published February 2025.

Scan the QR code to access our ROC

Feedback

When we consulted in October 2024, we held events in four locations along the length of the alignment between 7–10 October. A total of **59** attendees were recorded. During the 10-week feedback period, which closed on 21 November 2024, **27** responses were received. This feedback was then analysed by the project team to determine where changes could be considered.

We took on feedback in several ways including the importance that the viewpoint on the Cairn O'Mount has for the local area as well as the scheduled monument nearby. We ensured we routed the alignment as far as practicable away from these areas and considered similar feedback throughout the route.

We have included a summary of key feedback about our alignment received from communities, landowners and statutory stakeholders, alongside our response to this feedback in the following table.

Feedback	Response
Impacts on Nature Conservation **River Dee SAC:** The River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located within the catchment area of the Proposed Alignment; consultees raised concerns that construction may affect hydrologically connected habitats and features of the SAC.	It is recognised that the Proposed Alignment falls within the catchment of the River Dee SAC. We follow a mitigation hierarchy strategy of "avoid, minimise, mitigate and restore" to safeguard local, national and international designated environmentally protected areas. As the Proposed Alignment is hydrologically connected to the River Dee SAC, a European designated site, a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening report will be undertaken to inform the requirement for Appropriate Assessment. Impacts to watercourses will be minimised and mitigated through design and further mitigation, to reduce the potential for impact to watercourses (particularly during construction of the Proposed Alignment) will be identified as part of the EIA.
Montrose Basin SPA: The Montrose Basin Special Protection Area (SPA), designated for supporting wintering pink-foot and greylag geese, has potential for connectivity to the Proposed Alignment.	It is acknowledged that habitats within the route of the Proposed Alignment may support qualifying geese species of the Montrose Basin SPA. To assess the potential for likely significant effect, a HRA Screening report will be undertaken. If potential for impact to the conservation status of SPA populations is identified, Appropriate Assessment will be undertaken.
Impacts on Peatlands Consultees highlighted the presence of Nationally Important peatlands in the western section of the Proposed Alignment, with potential for impact to carbon-rich soils and peatlands.	Impacts on peatlands and carbon rich soils will be a key consideration in the development of the Proposed Alignment, informed by habitat and peat depth data and following the mitigation hierarchy. Opportunities for peatland restoration and enhancement will be considered and delivered in line with SSEN Transmission's BNG commitments. A Stage 1 Peat Management Plan and Peat Landslide Hazard Risk Assessment will be provided in support of future application for consent.
Impacts on Birds Potential impacts to various bird species have been highlighted by consultees, in addition to potential for impact to sites designated for birds (as outlined in the section for impact to Nature Conservation, above).	Bird surveys supported by collation of historical and recent records have been undertaken to establish an accurate baseline and identify ornithological constraints. It is considered that impacts on bird species will be limited and where there is the potential for impacts this will be addressed through mitigation by design. Further mitigation to reduce the potential for impact to bird species, particularly during the breeding season, will be identified as part of the EIA.

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Addressing feedback

Feedback	Response
Impacts on landscape and views In addition to the potential for impact to the setting of the Cairn o'Mount Scheduled Monument, consultees also highlighted the potential for impact to Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) and the potential for cumulative effects from other developments in the area.	When planning routes for overhead lines and substations, we consider visual impacts and how this may affect the local scenery, visitor experience and communities. For each project we develop, we conduct a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. This is one element of the EIA Report that forms part of our application to the local authorities and Scottish Government. In this assessment, we consider visual impact from centres of population, popular spots, like walking paths and tourist sites, and where possible reduce any potential negative visual impacts. Visualisations of each alignment option were provided as part of the Alignment Stage Consultation Document, to illustrate the view from Cairn o'Mount Cairns Scheduled Monument. Further visualisations will be provided as part of the EIA Report. Potential landscape and visual impacts have been considered during the routeing and alignment selection processes and will continue to be considered during the EIA . Opportunity for further refinement to limit impacts to views will be available through the Limit of Deviation (LoD) which will be established as part of the EIA. The LoD will comprise an area which defines the practical limits within which micrositing of the OHL infrastructure and access tracks can be achieved.
Impacts on Biodiversity Consultees have highlighted the requirement for national developments to demonstrate that biodiversity will be in a 'demonstrably better state', in line with the requirements of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4).	We also acknowledge that minimising impacts is not enough on its own, and we have therefore committed to delivering a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) on all our projects; as well as compensatory planting for any trees felled during the construction phase, where possible with native species. Where our projects are unable to completely avoid irreplaceable habitats (for example peatland or ancient woodland), we have also introduced a commitment to restore more habitat than we affect.
Impacts on Scheduled Monuments A Scheduled Monument (Cairn o'Mount) is located in the vicinity of the Proposed Alignment; therefore, there is potential for impact on its setting.	Visualisations have demonstrated that all Proposed Alignment Options have potential to impact on the setting of the monument. The Proposed Alignment has been developed to seek minimal impact where possible, with selection of an option of least impact.

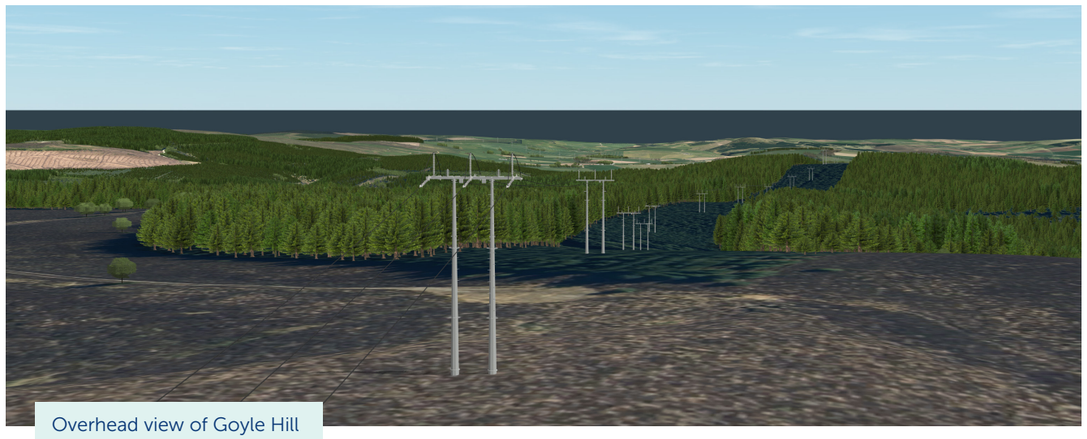
Feedback	Response
Impacts on Private Water Supplies (PWS)	To inform the alignment selection stage, as well as future stages of the project, SSEN Transmission have appointed specialist consultants to undertake PWS surveys within proximity of the alignment options. A risk assessment is then undertaken to identify those PWS that have the potential to be affected by the works. Should the results of this assessment indicate a risk to the PWS source or infrastructure, then mitigation shall be developed for inclusion in a site specific PWS Protection Plan that is discussed and agreed with the PWS owner. A report on potential PWS impacts and mitigation would also be included in the environmental assessments as part of the EIA Report which supports the consent application. In a small number of instances, where the works cannot be successfully micro-sited away from a PWS, we may be required to undertake a water quality testing programme prior to, during and after construction. This would be agreed with the PWS owner and SEPA.
Impacts on People Some consultees raised concerns regarding the approach to consultation and felt that their community views were not taken into consideration.	SSEN Transmission aims to develop all projects sensitively and to reduce impacts on communities as much as possible. Community feedback provides an essential insight into local issues that help to refine the overhead line design. Following the comprehensive review of all feedback, we consider what opportunities there are to modify our project's design to reduce impacts as much as possible. We have taken this approach at all stages of the project and will present in the report on consultation how we have responded to community feedback.
Undergrounding of the Proposed Alignment Many consultees queried why the Proposed Alignment could not be undergrounded, particularly where it may impact upon Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) and where there may be cumulative landscape and visual impacts with other developments in the area.	The environmental, technical, and operational constraints associated with undergrounding make the option extremely challenging to deliver in many areas of Scotland. Some of the challenges that contribute to this position include technical limitations, environmental impact, terrain concerns, infrastructure needs, operational needs and cost. Even if technically feasible, undergrounding over a significant length of or the entirety of a project would be unreasonable as it would be contrary to SSEN Transmission's licence obligations to be economic and efficient in respect of additional costs to the end consumer, with additional risk to the electricity transmission network in the event of cable failure and consequent outages.

3D visualisations

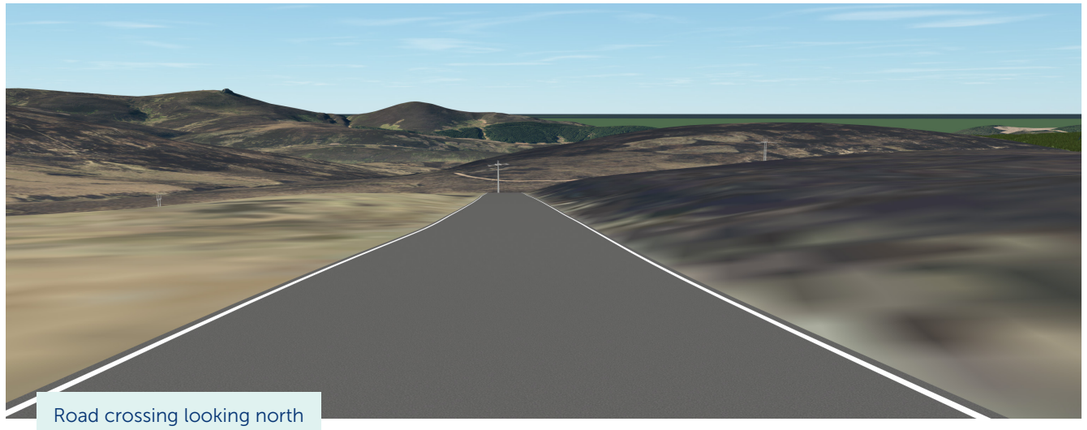
We understand that local stakeholders need to be able to visualise what the development may look like in their area. We have commissioned 3D visualisations which model the proposed overhead line into the local landscape to help understand the proposals in terms of the visual impact, distance and height.

The following are some images taken from the 3D model created for the Glendye Wind Farm Connection OHL project from a range of different vantage points.

To find the 3D flythrough video, scan the QR code or visit the following URL: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye**



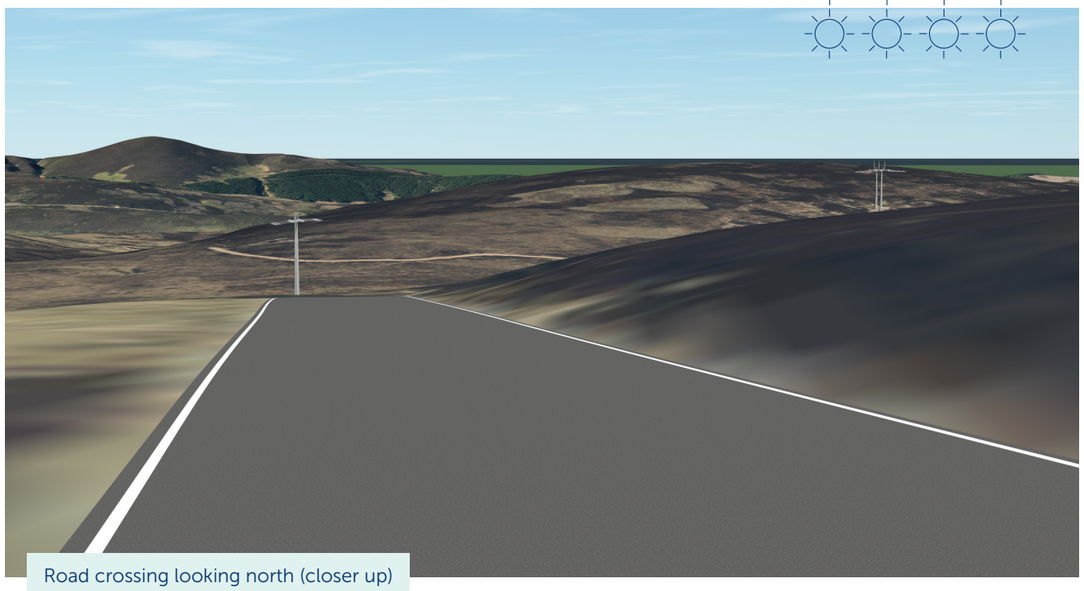
Overhead view of Goyle Hill



Road crossing looking north

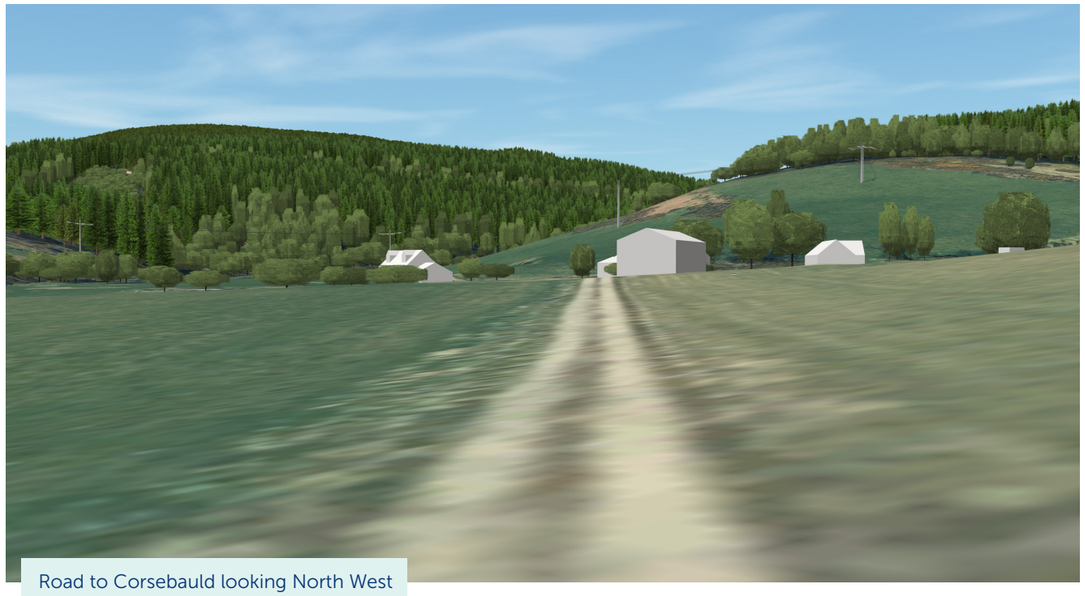
Photomontages

Photomontage visualisations will also be produced as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Once the EIA is completed and submitted as part of our Section 37 planning application, we will ensure these photomontages are available to view.



Road crossing looking north (closer up)

Road crossing looking south



Road to Corsebauld looking North West

Temple Hill looking toward Boy's Hill

To get a better sense of the proposals in full, a visualisation portal including flythrough video is also available to view from the project webpage and our consultants, 3D Webtech, will be assisting us at our events with copies of the model that attendees can interact with during the events.

Project timeline

Complete

Ongoing

2023
- **Q3:** Commencement of environmental assessments

2024
- **Q1:** Route consultation
- **Q4:** Alignment consultation

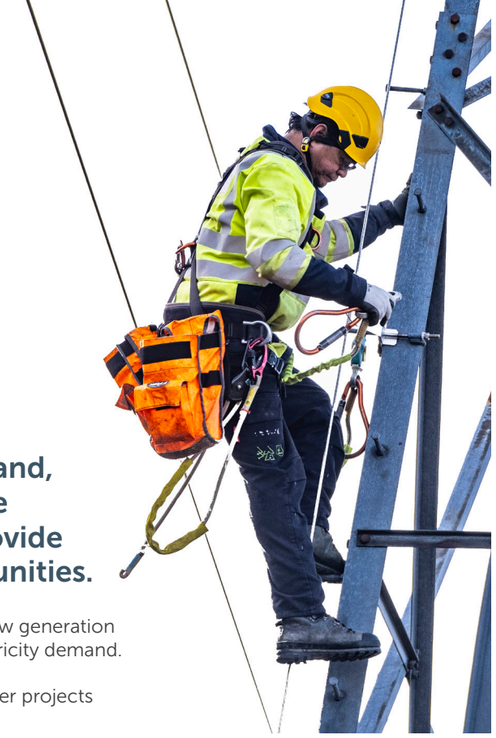
2025
- **Q1:** Pre-application consultation
- **Q2:** Section 37 application submitted

2026
- **Q1:** Section 37 decision received

2026
- **Q3:** Commence construction (subject to Planning Consent received)

2029
- **Q4:** Project completion

Other projects in the local area



As the transmission operator in the north of Scotland, we need to maintain and invest in the high voltage electricity transmission network in our area to provide a safe and reliable electricity supply to our communities.

We also need to offer terms for connections to the transmission network for new generation such as wind farms and pumped storage schemes and for new sources of electricity demand.

Therefore, as well as Glendye Wind Farm Connection, we have a number of other projects within the local area we are currently developing, described below.

Kintore to Tealing 400kV OHL upgrade (TKUP)

Based on the requirements outlined in National Energy System Operator (ESO)'s Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design we have developed proposals to reinforce the transmission system. As part of this we are proposing to establish a new 400kV overhead line (OHL) between Kintore and Tealing. This requires two new 400kV substations to be constructed to connect to this new OHL, one in Fetteresso Forest (Hurlie) and one near Tealing (Emmock) in Angus to enable required future connections and export routes to areas of demand. Together, these three projects form the East Coast 400kV Phase 2 Upgrade. This connection will be provided via an overhead line of steel lattice towers (commonly referred to as pylons) likely to average around 57m in height. For more information, visit the project webpage: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/TKUP**

Hurlie 400kV substation

In order to support the continued growth in onshore and offshore renewables across the north of Scotland, supporting the country's drive towards Net Zero, investment in network infrastructure is needed to connect this renewable power and transport it from source to areas of demand across the country. Extensive studies have confirmed the need to reinforce the onshore transmission infrastructure between Kintore and Tealing. A new 400kV substation is therefore required to enable connection of the new 400kV overhead line between Kintore and Tealing. This is part of the East Coast 400kV Phase 2 projects, a scheme consisting of several onshore reinforcement projects on the east coast of Scotland. **The TKUP project is completely separate to the Glendye Wind Farm Connection we are consulting on today.** For more information, visit the project webpage: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/hurlie**

Fetteresso substation 400kV upgrade

The existing Fetteresso substation was fully constructed in 2016 to operate at a voltage of 275kV, with the intention of upgrading to 400kV in the future. The aim of this new project is to upgrade the substation to operate at 400kV. The project elements include:

- Replacement of existing 275kV transformer with 400kV transformers;
- Replacement of existing 275kV equipment such as Surge Arrestors and Capacitive Voltage Transformers with 400kV equivalents;
- Any associated works (i.e. nomenclature changes, protection updates, etc.)

There are plans to upgrade the transmission system in the north east and on the east coast of Scotland to 400kV over the next decade. In order to facilitate this, we are proposing to upgrade the existing overhead line network in the region and install new substations at various points. The construction works will be contained to the existing site boundary and are taking place from late August through to late 2026.For more information, visit the project webpage: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/fetteresso-upgrade**

Fetteresso substation extension

Due to various upcoming connections in the area, there is a requirement to extend and secure the current Fetteresso 275kV substation.

The project consists of a platform extension,earthworks, upgrading equipment, installing transformers including SGTs, additional bays to facilitate all required connections and all associated protection and control upgrades. We are aiming to commence work in summer 2026 and targeting the majority of substation works completed for 2028 with works following depending on the connection requirements. This extension has a number of drivers including:

- Connection for Network Rail as part the east coast electrification strategy. (Commence in summer 2027 and energised for early 2029).
- Reinforcements and upgrades required on the transmission network to enable contracted connections on the distribution network. (Commence in summer 2026 and conclude for summer 2028)
- Connections back to the existing Fiddes substation as part of asset management and capacity requirements. (Still subject to OFGEM approval. Targeting completion by 2031)
- Potential incoming onshore wind farm. (Subject to accepting a connection agreement. Connection date likely to be post 2030)

These projects are in the early phases of design and development. More information will be available in the near future on the dedicated project website. **ssen-transmission.co.uk/fetteressoextension**

Local renewable developments

We know that local stakeholders are keen to understand the full extent of renewable developments being proposed in their local area.

Applications to connect to the transmission network in our licence area are made to National Energy System Operator (NESO) and undergo a lengthy process of assessment before we begin to develop a network connection for those developments.

We aim to be transparent about the renewable developments looking to connect to our network but are not permitted to disclose any details of these developments until they are in the public domain.

A list of projects that hold contracts for Transmission Entry Capacity (TEC) with National Grid, the Electricity System Owner is available from their website: **nationalgrideso.com**

Next steps

We value community and stakeholder feedback. Our final alignment proposals are the result of extensive engagement with a wide range of different stakeholders and we believe the Proposed Alignment strikes a balance between the various different considerations that we must take into account.

As part of the Section 37 application process, we are expected to hold at least two pre-application consultation events prior to submitting the application. This is the second and final series of events providing the opportunity for members of the public to respond to the Proposed Alignment and consider our responses to the feedback we have received from our previous consultation events.

Submitting your final comments to us:

We intend to submit our application for consent by the middle of 2025. Prior to this, you can submit your final formal comments to us before our feedback period closes on **Friday 28th March**. We welcome final comments from members of the public, statutory consultees and other key stakeholders regarding our proposals until such time as we submit our consent application.

Once an application for consent has been submitted, there will be an opportunity for the public to make formal representations directly to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit before it takes a decision.

Community Liaison Manager

The best way to contact us regarding this project is through our Community Liaison Team.

Catherine Cowie

SSEN Transmission, Unit 11, Prime Four Business Park, Kingswells, Aberdeen, AB15 8NY

glendye@sse.com

What we are seeking views on

During our last public consultation event in October 2024, we wanted to know your thoughts on our potential alignments. Now that we have selected our Proposed Alignment, we are asking for any final comments or feedback ahead of submitting our Section 37 consent application for the Glendye Wind Farm Connection OHL project. It would be helpful to share any opportunities to deliver a local community benefit or biodiversity projects you would like us to consider.

How to provide feedback

- Submit your feedback online by scanning the QR code on this page or via the form on our project webpage: **ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye**.
- Email the feedback form to our Community Liaison Manager or write to us enclosing the feedback form at the back of this booklet.

Please note that feedback provided as part of this final alignment consultation event are not formal representations to the ECU.

Our Community Liaison team

Each project has a dedicated Community Liaison Manager who works closely with community members to make sure they are well informed of our proposals and that their views, concerns, questions, or suggestions are put to our project teams. Throughout the life of our projects, you will hear from us regularly. We aim to establish strong working relationships by being accessible to key local stakeholders such as community councils, residents' associations, and development trusts, and regularly engage with interested individuals.

You can also follow us on social media:

@ssentransmission

@SSETransmission

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Your feedback

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet. In order to record your views and improve the effectiveness of our consultation, please complete this short feedback form.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS. (Please tick one box per question only)

Q1. **Which event did you attend? (Select all that apply)**

☐ Drumlithie ☐ Strachan ☐ Accessed information online ☐ None

Comments:

Q2. **Do you have any final comments regarding the alignment being proposed or concerns relating to the construction phase of the project?**

Comments:

Q3. **If consent is granted, we will continue to provide updates as the project develops and at key milestones. We continuously seek to identify the best methods of communication based on community needs. Please tell us how you would prefer to receive project updates so that we can consider this for future improvements (Select all that apply).**

☐ Newsletter ☐ Email to a mailing list ☐ Text message ☐ Letter

☐ Public meetings ☐ Website updates ☐ Other (please state)

Q4. **Our Community Benefit Fund will provide an opportunity for local groups and organisations to apply for community funding. Do you have any suggestions for local community benefits or local initiatives, such as volunteering, that we could support to leave a positive legacy in your area?**

Comments:

Q5. **We are committed to achieving biodiversity net gain as part of our proposals. Do you have any suggestions for nature projects that we could consider to leave a positive nature legacy in your area?**

Comments:

Glendye Wind Farm Connection

Full name: ..... **Email:** .....

Telephone: ..... **Address:** .....

We would like to send you relevant communications via email such as invitations to stakeholder events, surveys, updates on projects, services and future developments from the Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks group listed below. If you are happy to receive email updates please opt in by ticking the box below. You can unsubscribe at any time by contacting us at stakeholder.admin@sse.com or by clicking on the unsubscribe link that will be at the end of each of our emails.

☐ **If you would like to be kept informed of progress on the project, 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: SSEN Transmission, Unit 11, Prime Four Business Park, Kingswells, Aberdeen, AB15 8NY

Email: glendye@sse.com

Online: ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye

For information on how we collect and process your data please see our privacy notice available at today's event. This can also be obtained online at: ssen-transmission.co.uk/privacy

Comments forms and all the information from today's event will also be available to download from the project website.

We intend to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to assist our experienced teams in the analysis of your feedback, so we can categorise key points raised more quickly. You can learn more about how we're utilising AI at: ssen-transmission.co.uk/AIFAQ

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

Notes