



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks



Argyll Region

SSEN Projects Update

September 2017

Inveraray – Crossaig replacement overhead line



The steel towers that have delivered electricity to the Kintyre Peninsula for 60 years are now coming to the end of their operational life. We are proposing to replace the existing line to provide a more secure supply whilst enabling the connection of renewable energy.

We hosted events across Kintyre during March 2016 to present and consult on our preferred route options for new 275kV overhead line. Over the last 16 months we have reviewed all the feedback received from the community and engaged with the statutory authorities, specialist consultants and potentially affected landowners to provide a preferred route alignment.

Prior to preparing a Section 37 Consent application to the Scottish Government in early 2018, we are hosting open-door consultation events where members of the public will be able to view and comment on the preferred route alignment.

We previously consulted on a proposed new substation at Craig Murrail (between Lochgilphead and Lochgair). This was required to facilitate a connection of a wind farm. The developer has now terminated their connection agreement meaning that a new substation will not be required and the existing Port Ann substation will be retained and connected to the new overhead line.

Details of the event are as follows:

Tuesday 26th September

Inveraray – Loch Fyne Hotel - 1400-1900

Wednesday 27th September

Ardrishaig Public Hall - 1400-1900

Thursday 28th September

Tarbert Village Hall - 1400-1900

Tuesday 3rd October

Skipness Village Hall - 1400-1900

Wednesday 4th October

Carradale Village Hall - 1400-1900

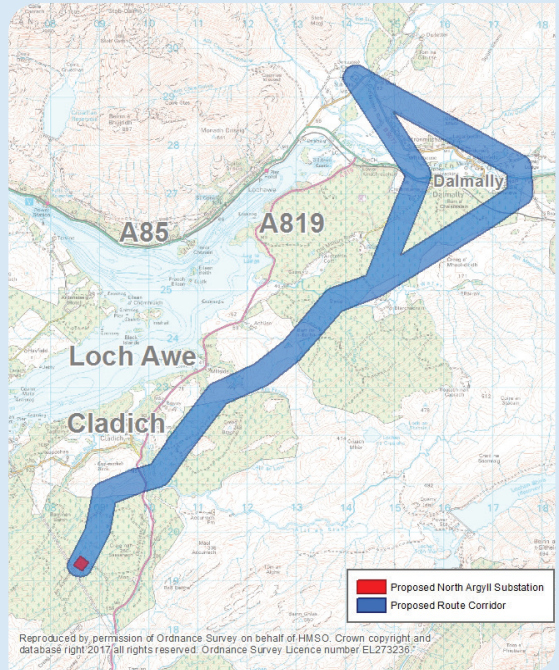
Information on the project can be viewed via the dedicated webpage:
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/inveraray-crossaig/

North Argyll substation - Dalmally

We are proposing to construct the new North Argyll substation to the north of Portsonachan. This would connect to the existing substation at Dalmally via a new 275kV overhead line. This project would reinforce the existing network and enable generators to connect to the national grid.

We held a series of public consultation events during October 2016 to provide members of the public with six different route options for the overhead lines and five potential locations for the substation. The feedback received at this time has enabled us and our specialist consultants to better understand which route and location would provide the best solution in addition to the technical, environmental and economic factors.

Following an analysis of all available information, we have selected the preferred location of the new substation. This site will enable us to adopt Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) technology rather than the traditional Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS). This means that the overall site will be smaller and the majority of the equipment would be housed within a single-storey building.



Proposed route corridor

We are continuing discussions with statutory authorities to seek comments on the proposed new overhead line connection to Dalmally substation, particularly in regards to the environment. This feedback will be used alongside all available information to confirm our preferred route (see image above) and subsequently a preferred alignment for the connection.

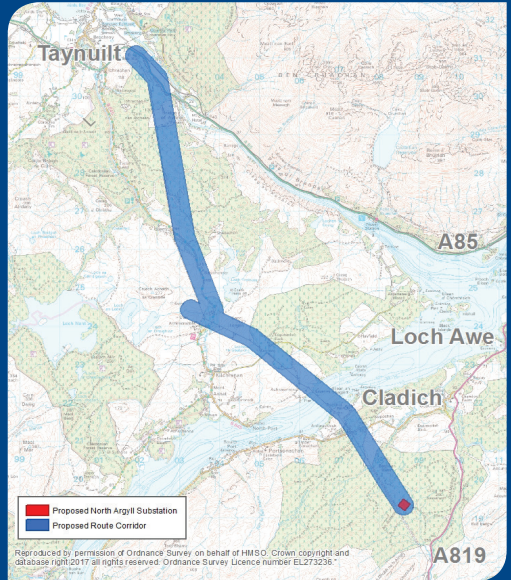
We will continue to develop both elements of the project with a view to host further public consultation events towards the end of 2017.

North Argyll Substation – Taynuilt replacement overhead line

The existing electricity transmission line, which crosses Loch Awe, has been in operation for 60 years. The recent increase in renewable generators wanting to connect to the national grid means that the line is at capacity and now needs to be either upgraded or replaced.

Following a round of technical assessments and investigations, we have determined that the existing steel towers would not have the required strength to support the higher capacity conductors and meet current standards. Therefore the towers will need replaced rather than upgraded.

During the public consultation events in October 2016, we identified six route options where a replacement line could potentially be constructed. We are engaging with statutory authorities to seek comments on our proposed route (see image right).

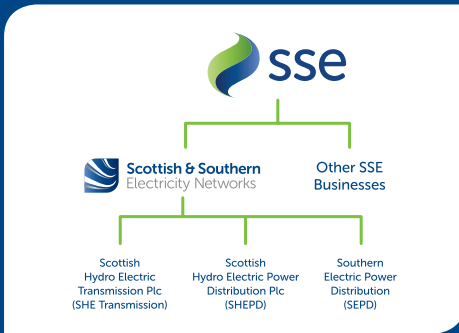


Proposed route corridor

Comments provided by the statutory authorities will be used to help us confirm a preferred route. On completion of this, we will identify a preferred alignment. We are aiming to host public consultation events towards the end of 2017 and will ensure that these are coordinated in conjunction with the North Argyll substation events.

Additional information about both the North Argyll Substation – Dalmally and North Argyll Substation – Taynuilt projects can be viewed via the project webpage: www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/north-argyll

Who we are



We are part of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, operating under licence as Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc 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

As we are the only company that owns an electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland we are closely regulated by the energy regulator Ofgem. We are issued with a licence to operate and we must adhere to the terms of the licence. For this reason we operate on a very separate basis to other SSE businesses.

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

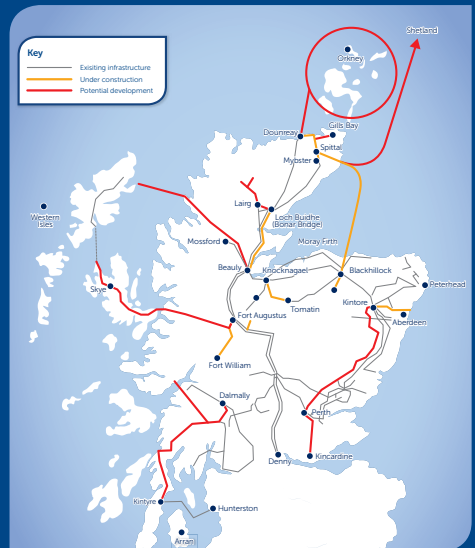
What is the difference between Transmission and Distribution?

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 wires, underground cables and subsea cables. The transmission network connects large scale generation, primarily renewables, to central and southern Scotland and the rest of Great Britain.

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





Any Questions?

If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback in regards to the information contained in this booklet, please visit our project webpages or contact our Community Liaison Manager.

We will be seeking feedback from members of the public and statutory bodies as part of our public consultation sessions being held later in 2017. Details of these events will be communicated through our website, social media, local newspapers and postal mail drops.



If you would like further information about the project please contact our Communities Team Manager:

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SSEN

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For further information visit:

North Argyll Project: www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/north-argyll

Inveraray – Crossaig Project : www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/inveraray-crossaig

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