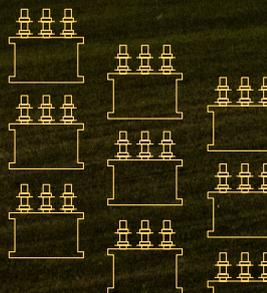


# Proposed Fanellan Project updates

February 2025



## Project updates since our last consultation event in June 2024

The proposed Fanellan 400kV project has been progressing through design development since the 2024 statutory consultation events held last March and June 2024. There have been ongoing design reviews and site investigation works to develop the planning submission design.

### The Planning Application submission process outlined

The planning application including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be submitted imminently to The Highland Council (THC). THC Validation team will review the application to ensure that all the information has been submitted. Assuming all the information is correct THC will make the application 'Valid' and assign a planning reference number, the application details will at this point be live on THC planning portal for public viewing.

Next, THC Case Officer will get consultations sent out to statutory consultees and neighbours, and a newspaper notice will be placed by THC. The consultation period provides 30 days for representatives to lodge their consideration with THC

The application can be viewed in person and online at: <http://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam/> by entering the reference number or by appointment between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday at, **Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX**

A copy will also be available at: **Kiltarlity Post Office, Coffee Shop and Village Store, Allarburn Place, Kiltarlity, Beauly, IV4 7HG** Between 7.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday and 7.30am and 2.30pm Saturday and 08.30am and 4.30pm Sunday.

Printed copies of the EIA Report can be provided for a fee by contacting:

**Claire Goddard**  
(Consents and Environment Manager)

 SSEN Transmission, 10 Henderson Road, Inverness, IV1 1SN

 fanellanengagement@sse.com

 07918 470 281

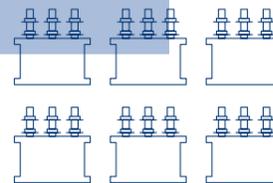
A digital copy of the EIA Report and a copy of the Non-Technical Summary will be on the applicant's website at: [ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/new-fanellan-400kv-substation-and-converter-station/](https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/new-fanellan-400kv-substation-and-converter-station/)

Any person who wishes to make a representation on the application, can make this online by visiting: <http://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam/>

or by writing to:

 The Head of Planning and Building Standards, ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX

The deadline for receipt of comments is **30 days** from the date of publication of the newspaper notice made by THC.



## The table below outlines the updates to the Fanellan proposal since the statutory consultation events held in 2024;

Development Area	Update
Site Drainage	Drainage pond designs refined to alter shapes to take account of access requirements, space requirements and progressed drainage designs.
Site Access Road	Alignment of the proposed permanent access road updated to follow existing ground profile reducing excavation and filling requirements. This to include movement to allow better construction of proposed new OHL towers for Beauly Denny tower replacements required for the project.  Updated transport assessment of access has allowed removal of large turning head behind land scaping forms. Moving front edge of these towards the proposed site.
OHL Tower Access	Additional proposed access tracks included in the design to provide permanent access to SSEN T angle towers.  These are required to update on SSENT specification requiring permanent access tracks to angle towers to ease any ongoing maintenance requirements.  These tracks shall be included in the OHL Section 37 applications.
OHL Construction Sequence	Subject to the approval of the Carnaig/Spittal OHL project the Fanellan project team shall construct the Carnaig/Spittal terminal tower with the proposed Beauly Denny OHL diversion works.  This is to make construction of the 3no terminal towers to the rear of the platform safer for our delivery partners.
Landscaping	Refinement of landscape form to reduce their overall footprint to allow return of larger field area after proposed construction.  Increase in overall landscape form height to increase visual screening to adjacent and wider properties.  Landscape forms extended to remove gap at current Upper Fanellan Cottages. This will improve noise and visual screening of the development.
Noise	Ongoing noise assessments and modelling completed.  Landscape form gaps reduced to ensure sufficient screening of proposed development
HVDC Converter station	Site footprint remains as previous with building orientations altered to take account of updated equipment selection and design.
HVDC Cable Corridor	Ongoing refinement of incoming cable corridor.  Cable route within wider Fanellan site location is proposed to enter the site at the field to the NW of the Fanellan Road C1106 and U1604. Before following the proposed permanent access track into the HVDC development.

Any subsequent additional information which is submitted by the applicant will be subject to further public notice in this manner, and representations to such information will be accepted as per this notice.

The Council will acknowledge receipt of comments but is unable to respond individually to points or questions raised. Please note that your comments will be published online. Please quote the application reference number in your correspondence. The application will be determined by the Council's South Planning Applications Committee. The possible decisions on the application are either, approve with or without conditions or refuse.

As part of the proposed development ongoing discussions are being held with the current landowners and their tenants directly impacted by the development’s construction activities, where it impacts those individuals and their use of current land and properties. SSENT will not disclose or discuss these discussions with outside parties.

**The table below outlines the site-based investigation works during the design refinement and planning phase.**

Works	Update
Ground Investigations	<p>A second phase of ground investigation works are underway at the proposed platform location and surrounding temporary compound areas. These works are required to confirm previous investigation works and allow our delivery partner to further develop their detailed design and construction methods.</p> <p>The works are due to continue over the coming months. Areas will then be returned to their current use and include the removal of site cabins etc.</p>
Utility Surveys	<p>In the local road network area there has been topographical and visual inspections to identify and confirm utility assets such as water mains, telecoms cable and electric cables.</p> <p>These are required to ensure any protection or diversion requirements are identified.</p>
Ecology Surveys	<p>Ongoing ecology surveys for both plants and wildlife will continue during the planning determination period. This is to ensure there are no changes that need to be notified to statutory bodies.</p> <p>The assessments and information legally allowed to be made available will be included in the EIA as part of the planning submission. Due to legal protection of specific species, we are unable to share more specific locations <del>etc</del> that covered in the EIA.</p>
Public Road and Structure Assessments	<p>SSENT delivery partners shall be completing assessments of the local roads network and structures such as bridges and culverts. To provide a baseline condition assessment for the project.</p> <p>These are to determine their current conditions as part of the project development. Any condition assessments completed shall be shared with THC or the relevant asset owner.</p>

**Black Bridge Update**

As part of the project development the existing Black Bridge has also been subject to ground investigation works and structural assessments. These works are being used to determine the intervention works required to create a safe site access for the proposed development. All investigation reports have been shared with THC structures team.

There is ongoing engagement between SSENT and THC regarding the Black Bridge. There are ongoing structural and ecological surveys of the bridge and the adjacent land.

