



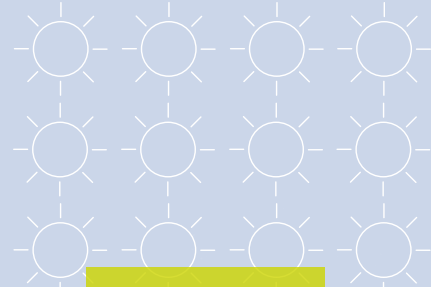
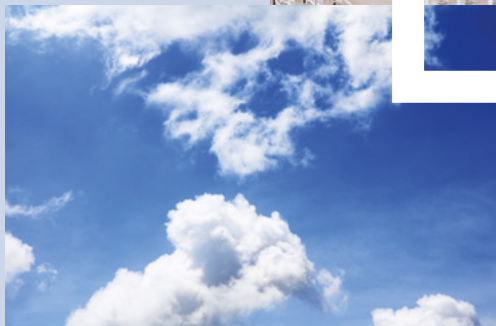
Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

New Deer 2 (Greens) Substation

Pre-Application Consultation

February 2024



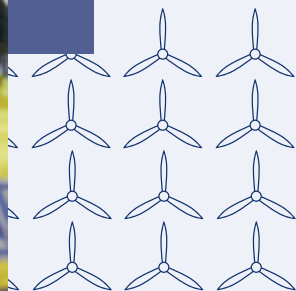
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The consultation events will be taking place on:

27 February 2024 - Cuminstown Community Hall - 2pm-7pm

29 February 2024 - New Deer Public Hall - 2pm-7pm



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 National Grid Electricity System Operator 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's 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're investing £20 billion into our region's energy infrastructure this decade, powering more than ten million UK homes and 20,000 jobs, 9,000 of which will be here in Scotland.



Find out more

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

Who we are

We're 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 (OHL) 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 our host communities. So we're committed to minimising our impacts and maximising all the benefits that our developments can bring to your area.

We're 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. 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

The Pathway to 2030

Building the energy system of the future will require delivery of significant infrastructure over the next few years. In partnership with the UK and Scottish Governments, we're committed to meeting our obligation of connecting new, renewable energy to where it's needed by 2030.

Achieving net zero

By 2030, both the UK and Scottish Governments are targeting a big expansion in offshore wind generation of 50GW and 11GW respectively. The Scottish Government has also set ambitious targets for an additional 12GW of onshore wind by 2030.

Across Great Britain, including the north of Scotland, there needs to be a significant increase in the capacity of the onshore electricity transmission infrastructure to deliver these 2030 targets and a pathway to net zero.

Securing our energy future

And it's not just about net zero. It's also about building a homegrown energy system, so that geopolitical turmoil around the world doesn't severely impact the UK and push up energy prices. The UK Government's British Energy Security Strategy further underlines the need for this infrastructure, setting out plans to accelerate homegrown power for greater energy independence.

The strategy aims to reduce the UK's dependence on and price exposure to global gas wholesale markets through the deployment of homegrown low carbon electricity generation supported by robust electricity network infrastructure.

Meeting our 2030 targets

In July 2022, National Grid, the Electricity System Operator (ESO), published the Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design (HND).

This set out the blueprint for the onshore and offshore transmission infrastructure that's required to support the forecasted growth in the UK's renewable electricity.

It's an ambitious plan that will help the UK achieve net zero.

What does this mean for you?

Extensive studies informing the ESO's Pathway to the 2030 HND confirmed the need to reinforce the onshore corridors between Spittal and Beaulieu, Beaulieu to Peterhead and the subsea connection between Spittal and Peterhead.

Providing new higher voltage connections between these sites will deliver the significant increased capacity needed to transport energy from new large scale onshore and offshore renewable generation (mainly wind farms) to demand centres via onshore and HVDC subsea links.

To enable these new connections, new 400kV substations are required at key locations as shown on the adjacent map. At Spittal, Beaulieu and Peterhead, converter stations are required to convert electricity from the subsea cables that transport electricity from the Western Isles, between Spittal and Peterhead and Peterhead south.




These key locations will also allow offshore and onshore renewable generation to connect to the reinforced electricity network.

These projects have been highlighted as critical to delivering the UK and Scottish Government's targets, with the development of them accelerated to meet the target dates of Energisation by 2030.

Future network investment requirements

Our 2030 targets will only get us so far on the transition to net zero. The UK Government has a target to decarbonise our electricity system by 2035 and fully decarbonise our economy by becoming net zero by 2050, with the Scottish Government committing to net zero five years earlier, by 2045.

To achieve these targets, further investment in new low carbon electricity generation and the enabling electricity transmission network infrastructure will be required. The next stage of strategic network planning across Great Britain is underway and we expect the independent Electricity System Operator, National Grid ESO, to publish details of this in March this year. It is expected this will include a combination of new onshore and offshore network requirements.

-  New infrastructure
-  Upgrade/replacement of existing infrastructure
-  Existing network



Help shape our plans

The work we have planned is significant and has the potential to deliver massive benefits in your community, Scotland, and beyond. Yet we know that achieving our goals will require a lot of work that will impact your lives. That's why we want to work with you every step of the way throughout the planning and delivery stages of these essential and ambitious works.

We're committed to delivering a meaningful consultation 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.

Throughout the consultation, we'll present our approach to developing the project, including changes made since we last consulted with you.

We will also provide some visualisations and maps to show you where everything will be located.

We want you to share your thoughts and opinions on our plans, where you think we can make improvements, concerns about the impact of our work and what you think of any changes and refinements we've made.

By telling us what you think, you will help shape our proposals. We want to harness your local knowledge so that we spot any unforeseen challenges early and maximise the potential benefits and opportunities for your communities.

Because, ultimately, we want you to work with us to ensure that the energy infrastructure we build will be the best it can possibly be.

Who we are consulting with

As well as communities, we are keen to hear feedback from a broad range of other stakeholders including but not limited to landowners, businesses, non-statutory consultees and statutory consultees such as local authorities, NatureScot, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS).



Project overview

We're leading some exciting projects to power change in the UK and Scotland. To support the delivery of 2030 offshore wind targets set by the UK and Scottish Governments, and to power local communities, we need to upgrade our existing network. In some key areas, we need to develop entirely new infrastructure.

Beaully to Blackhillock to New Deer to Peterhead 400kV Overhead Line (OHL)

Extensive studies have confirmed the need for a new 400kV transmission connection between Beaully and Peterhead, connecting into substation sites near Blackhillock and New Deer.

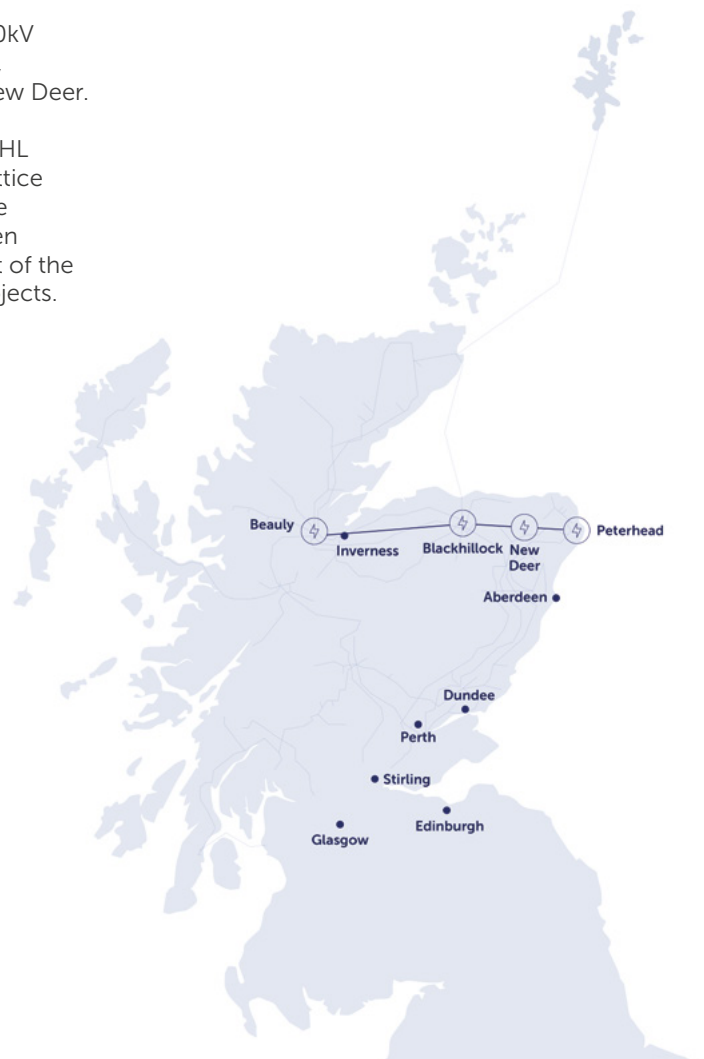
This connection will be provided via an Overhead Line OHL approximately 180km in length and consisting of steel lattice towers (commonly referred to as pylons) likely to average around 56m in height. The proposed 400kV OHL between Beaully, Blackhillock, New Deer and Peterhead forms part of the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment (ASTI) projects.

The new 400kV OHL, will connect into the proposed new 400kV substations at Beaully, in the Highlands, Blackhillock in Moray, New Deer 2 and Netherton, near Peterhead in Aberdeenshire. Each substation will connect to the existing 400kV substations in each of the areas.

New Deer 2 400kV substation

This consultation is related to our New Deer 2 substation. The project will involve construction of a new outdoor, 400kV Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation located East of Turriff and South of Cuminstown, 3km from the existing New Deer substation. The current proposed substation footprint is approximately 700m by 375m.

With provision to enable future renewable energy generation to connect to the transmission network, New Deer 2 400kV substation will connect to the Beaully to Peterhead 400kV OHL and to the existing New Deer substation via underground cable (UGC).



Naming the substation

Feedback from our consultation indicated that stakeholders felt the name of the substation should be more relevant to the area in which it is located. Now that a proposed site has been selected, we are changing the name of New Deer 2 substation to Greens substation.

Going forward within this booklet, for the next consultation and submission of our planning application, the name will be formally changed to Greens substation.

How we've selected the substation site

Our site selection process makes sure the design, consenting, construction and operation of our projects are undertaken in a manner, which on balance, causes the least disturbance to the environment and the local community, while ensuring the solution taken forward is economically and technically practical.

To do this we follow an internal process supported by third party environmental and technical experts. This has many key stages, each increasing in detail and definition and bringing technical, environmental, people, and cost considerations together to find a balanced outcome.

Our proposed site: Site 13 - Greens

Following our last consultation on the proposed New Deer 2 substation in March 2023, where we asked for your views regarding shortlisted sites, in December 2023 we confirmed that the site we were proposing to progress with was site 13.

The Report on Consultation (ssen-transmission.co.uk/new-deer-2-roc) documents the consultation process which was undertaken between 22 March 2023 and 10 November 2023 for the project.

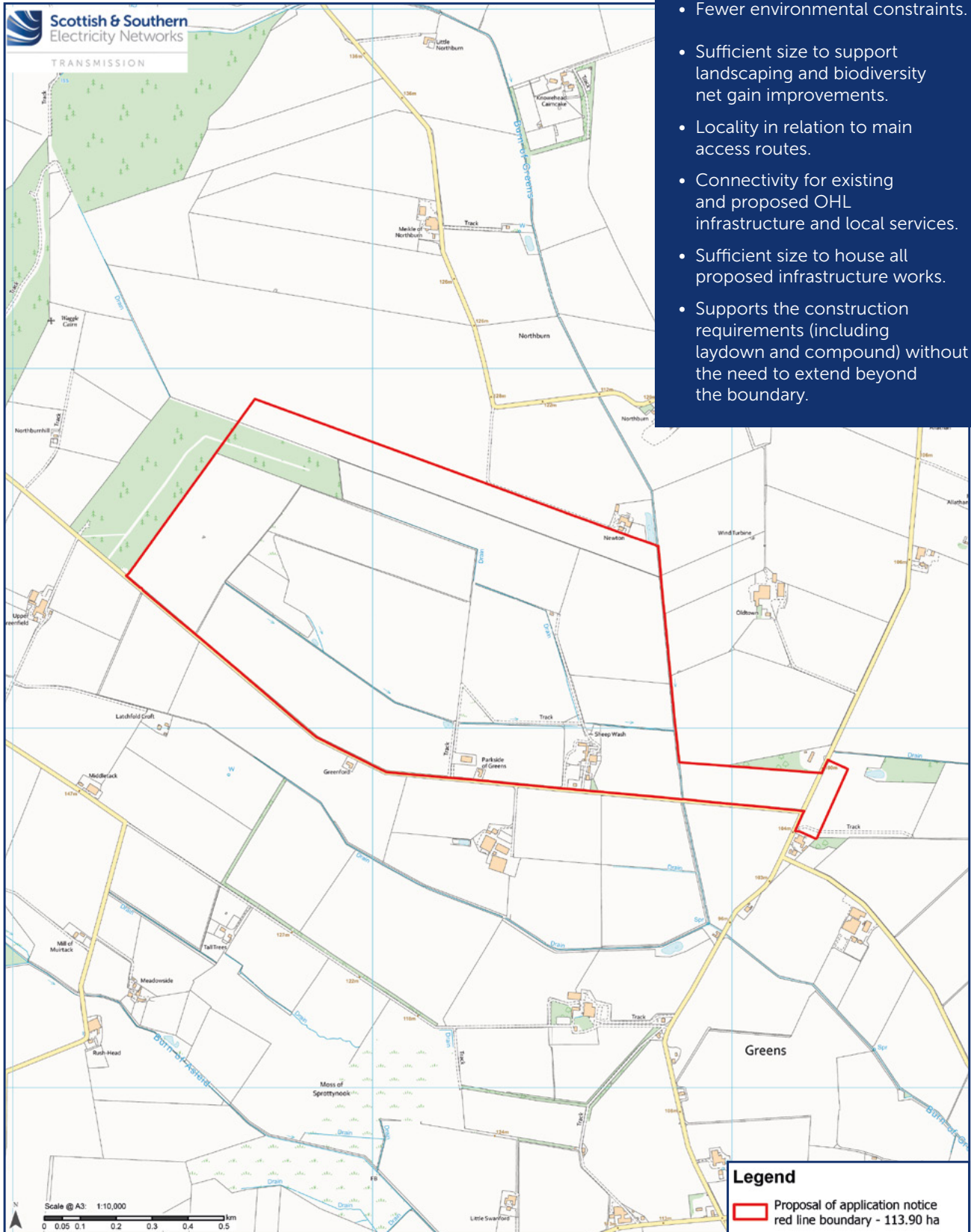
This report describes the consultation events, summarises the key consultation responses received and provides detail on our responses to the point raised. Site 13 was the only option to have no 'Red' RAG (Red; Amber; Green) ratings against our Site Selection criterion, with 'Red' representing least preferred.

Having reviewed and considered the stakeholder feedback, in conjunction with the results from our detailed site selection process, there have been no issues raised that we believe would be of such a scale to reconsider the preferred site for the proposed Greens (New Deer 2) substation.

What next?

We are now at the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) stage of our site selection process and following this consultation, we will engage again in May 2024, to share feedback from this consultation event and any subsequent changes to design prior to submitting a planning application to the Local Planning Authority.





Why this site?

- Fewer environmental constraints.
- Sufficient size to support landscaping and biodiversity net gain improvements.
- Locality in relation to main access routes.
- Connectivity for existing and proposed OHL infrastructure and local services.
- Sufficient size to house all proposed infrastructure works.
- Supports the construction requirements (including laydown and compound) without the need to extend beyond the boundary.

The Town and Country Planning process

The legislation that enables the planning of projects like Greens 400kV substation, is the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

Engaging the right people

We will be applying for planning permission for the Greens 400kV Substation through an application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

The proposed substation project is categorised as ‘National Development’ under the terms of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, meaning pre-application consultation is required in the manner prescribed in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (As Amended).

The application would also need to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. We will be submitting an EIA Scoping Report to Angus Council soon, which, in collaboration with statutory and non-statutory consultees, will determine the scope of issues that must be considered in the EIA Report.

The pre-application consultation process

A Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council on 30 January 2024, notifying the Council of the dates and venues of the first and second public pre-application consultation events.

With the PAN, we also submitted a plan identifying the potential land to be developed. The red line boundary shown on this plan represents the maximum extent of the land included in the application site, but this area may

be reduced or rationalised as the development proposal becomes finalised. The PAN also provided details of relevant parties the PAN was sent to in accordance with the statutory requirements, and highlighted our plans for publicity for the events and the project website.

There is a requirement to hold two events to provide the opportunity for members of the public to comment on the proposals. This booklet relates to the first public events. A second set of events will be held in May 2024 at which feedback will be given on the views obtained at the first events. There will also be a further opportunity for comment during this second event.

Submitting the planning application

The current project programme anticipates that the planning application will be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in Autumn 2024. This will include the EIA Report, other standalone reports, forms, and drawings.

Summaries of representations will also be included in a Pre-application Consultation Report, alongside the details required by Regulation 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (As Amended).

Note that comments made through the pre-application consultation process are not formal representations to Aberdeenshire Council. When the planning application is submitted there will be an opportunity to make formal representations to Aberdeenshire Council.



Finding common ground with landowners

We recognise that landowners and occupiers are key stakeholders in the development of our projects. At all levels, we will be transparent about our proposals and keep the conversation open and constructive when it comes to those affected and reaching effective compromise.

From the outset of the project, our land team have been identifying and contacting landowners and occupiers who may be affected by our proposals.

If you are a landowner who is affected by the proposals and have not yet had contact from us, please get in touch via the contact details for the dedicated project Land Managers found on the relevant webpages: ssen-transmission.co.uk/greens

We work with landowners and occupiers to mitigate the effects of our infrastructure on their properties and our team of Land Managers will be on hand to answer queries and address concerns throughout this process.

As part of this, we need to carry out various engineering and environmental surveys to inform what we design and how we build it.

We will always seek consent from affected landowners and occupiers in advance for these surveys.

Once we have finalised the design, we will be required to secure the appropriate land rights from landowners and occupiers in order to secure planning consent.

Our Land Managers will endeavour to reach a voluntary agreement with landowners and occupiers, however, as a statutory undertaker, we might need to underpin voluntary discussions with an application to Scottish Ministers for a Necessary Wayleave or Compulsory Purchase Order.

Ultimately this is to ensure nationally significant infrastructure projects are delivered on time and in line with our licence obligations. We also have a duty to protect the interests of the UK bill payer.

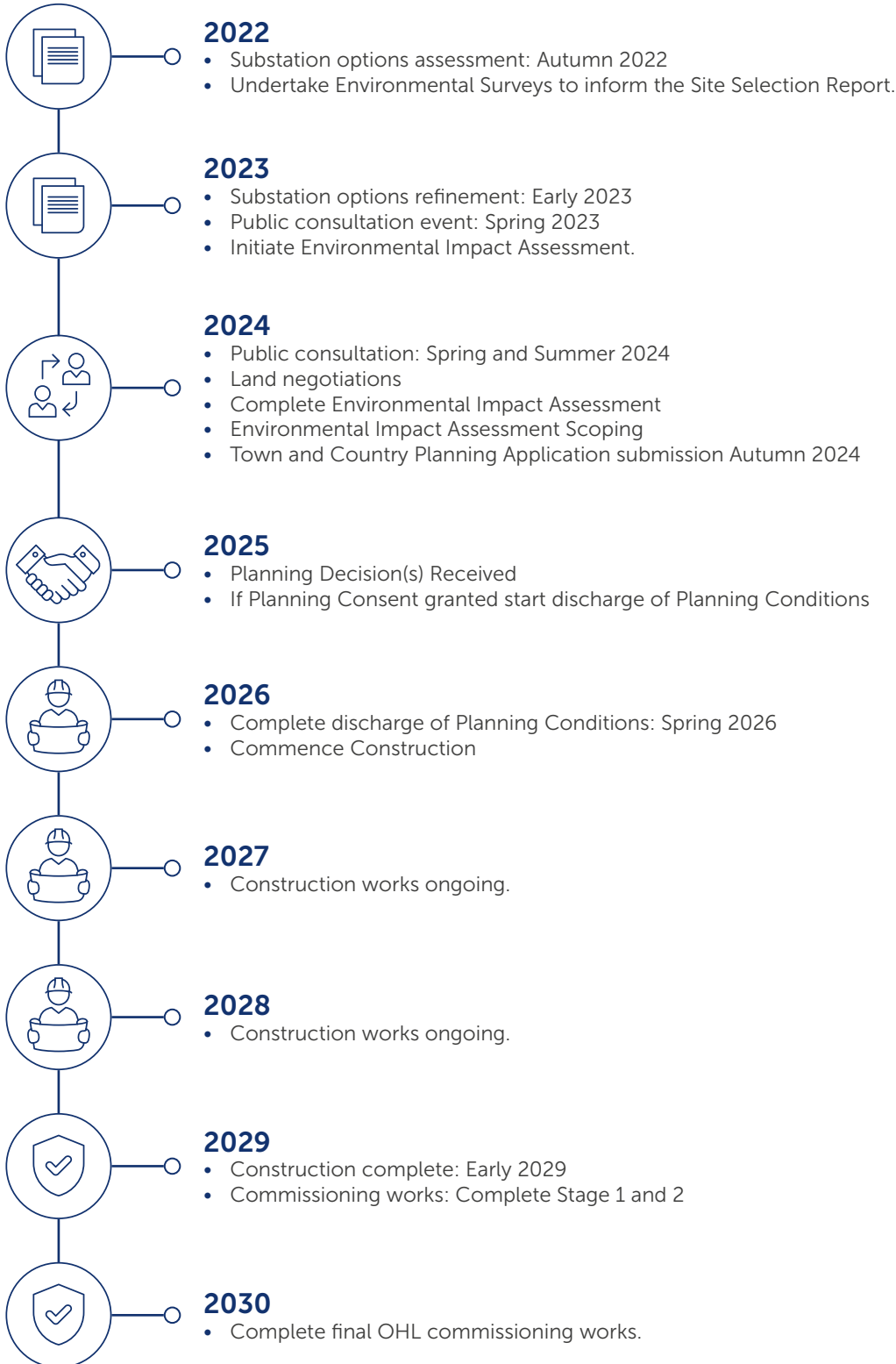
Statutory powers are not used lightly as we aim to work with landowners and occupiers to secure the necessary land rights voluntarily.

All potentially affected landowners and occupiers have the opportunity to provide feedback at our in-person consultation events and by submitting a feedback form.

We would encourage all those with an interest to submit their views through this consultation.



Project timeline



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 Greens substation, we have a number of other projects within the local area we are currently progressing, described below.

Our relevant Pathway to 2030 projects are also detailed on page 13 and includes information regarding our proposals for the Beauly to Blackhillock to New Deer to Peterhead 400kV OHL.

Netherton Hub (Peterhead)

Extensive studies have confirmed the need to develop a second 400kV and 132kV substation at Peterhead, which is being developed at Netherton Hub near Longside. A further high voltage direct current (HVDC) link is required between Peterhead and South Humber, which will double the export capacity of the existing scheme already in development between Peterhead and Yorkshire.

This additional HVDC link is interconnected with the HVDC link between Spittal and Peterhead, resulting in a direct current (DC) network to allow for the high capacity of onshore and offshore connections required to deliver UK and Scottish Government targets.

An area of approximately 120 hectares is required to facilitate the project, with the aim to keep all elements of the project within the one site to help minimise the impact to the local community.

Rothienorman 400kV substation

We have constructed a new 400/275kV substation adjacent to an existing transmission OHL, west of the Wood of Middleton, approximately two miles west of the village of Rothienorman. Construction commenced in 2019 and is expected to conclude in spring 2024.

The substation is required to allow increased generation capacity access to the transmission system, while keeping the network fully operable and compliant with all necessary technical standards. Without these necessary reinforcements, the network cannot facilitate all generation connections.

Establishing a substation at Rothienorman addresses this issue and in effect increases the networks efficiency and capability. Power sharing across these circuits becomes more important as generation load increases on the system.

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 license area, are made to National Grid ESO 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/data-portal/transmission-entry-capacity-tec-register

Development considerations

During our last consultation, we outlined many of the engineering, environmental and social considerations we take account of when establishing a practical site for the substation. Now that we have identified a proposed site, we are able to share further details regarding many of our development considerations.

Size

The layout of the substation has been developed as an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation. The AIS equipment will be outdoors and consists of busbars and switchgear which is used to marshal and control the electricity supply.

The substation platform size is approximately 700m x 375m and has been developed based on the number of bays required for the initial connections at the site and allowance made for future connections.

A control building will be required on site which contains equipment required to operate the substation including control panels. The building will be single story with an approximate overall height of 14.5m.

Landscape and Visual

There are no National Parks, National Scenic Areas or Wildland Areas in proximity to the Site. The nearest Garden and Designed Landscape is Hatton Castle, which lies approximately 4km to the west.

The site is located on the eastern slopes of Waggle Hill, facing southeast towards a broad open agricultural valley, and contained to the west by rising ground and forestry.

It would be visible for the residential receptors across the valley to the east. Due to distance from the existing substation, the development is likely to extend the presence of infrastructure in the local landscape, where this type of infrastructure is not currently one of the key characteristics.

A detailed landscape and visual assessment will be carried out as part of the EIA to understand how the proposed development will be viewed within the surrounding area, to identify any significant effects and propose mitigation measures in response to these effects.

Indicative landscape and visual mitigation measures such as landscape bunds and planting are shown on the layout plan and 3D visualisations that form part of this consultation process.

Traffic

The overall access to the site is proposed to be from the B1970, with survey and design works ongoing to determine any Public Road Improvement works required to facilitate this.

The construction of the proposed development will require vehicles to deliver plant, machinery and workers to the site.

An appropriate Construction Traffic Management Plan would be developed to ensure road safety for all other road users during the construction works for suitable management of all abnormal loads and vehicle movements.

Connections

Greens 400kV substation allows future offshore and onshore renewable generation to connect to the reinforced electricity network.

The location of Greens 400kV substation enables connections into the substation via the north, with the Beauly to Peterhead overhead connection into the substation via OHL. Greens 400kV substation will connect to the existing New Deer substation via Underground Cable and exit the site via the south.

Noise

Construction noise is considered to be short term and intermittent and can be controlled through the implementation of a noise management plan, which would include working hours agreed with Aberdeenshire Council.

Baseline noise monitoring surveys will be undertaken at noise sensitive receptors within the vicinity of the site to inform an operational noise assessment.

Appropriate mitigation measures will be considered dependent on the results of the assessment.



Cultural heritage

There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes, Inventory Battlefields or Conservation Areas within 3km of the Site.

An appraisal including a walkover survey of the site and its surrounding area has been undertaken to understand the potential effects on the historic environment. Within the site there is a single recorded undesignated asset – rig and furrow earthworks.

This feature is a continuation from the field adjacent. The feature survives in nearly unrecognisable condition, likely due to the significant ploughing of the field. The fields are a mixture of arable/pasture with evidence of intensive ploughing, reducing the potential for any surviving subsurface archaeology.

Consultation will be carried out with Aberdeenshire Council as part of the planning application process to identify any on-site archaeological investigation that would be required before construction works commence.

If required a Written Scheme of Investigation would be prepared which would set out a strategy for archaeological mitigation in advance of the construction works.



Summary of environmental considerations

Summary of water environment and soils

The site is located to the west of Burn of Greens and Little Water/Black Burn. There are numerous Private Water Supplies (PWS) within 1km of the site, with some located within the site itself.

Where PWS' are identified, further investigation of potentially impacted PWS will be undertaken and appropriate protection/mitigation measures implemented.

The site lies within a Drinking Water Protected Area for groundwater.

A heavily modified ditch is present centrally within the site and discussions have taken place with SEPA regarding the diversion of this feature to accommodate the development.

Detailed design of this diversion will be identified as part of the application proposals however, an indicative diversion route is shown on the layout plan which supports this consultation process.

A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact Assessment will be prepared to support the planning application and inform the detailed design of the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) drainage strategy for the site however, an indicative SuDS strategy has been identified and is illustrated in the drainage layout drawings that support this consultation process.

A Site Water Management Plan will be developed to manage potential risks to the water environment during construction.

Summary of terrestrial ecology and ornithology

The site has been surveyed to identify habitats, protected species and birds. A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) condition assessment was also undertaken concurrently with the habitat survey which allows the biodiversity units of the site to be calculated. The site which allows for the current biodiversity units does not lie within or close to any sites designated for nature conservation.

Field signs of badger foraging and commuting activity such as prints, latrines and snuffle holes were recorded within the site and subsequent ecological monitoring and survey has identified the presence of active badger setts. No conclusive signs of other protected and/or notable species were recorded.

Breeding bird surveys indicated that the site and surrounding area support numerous breeding bird species. The low-lying agricultural land represents potentially suitable foraging habitat for overwintering waterfowl.

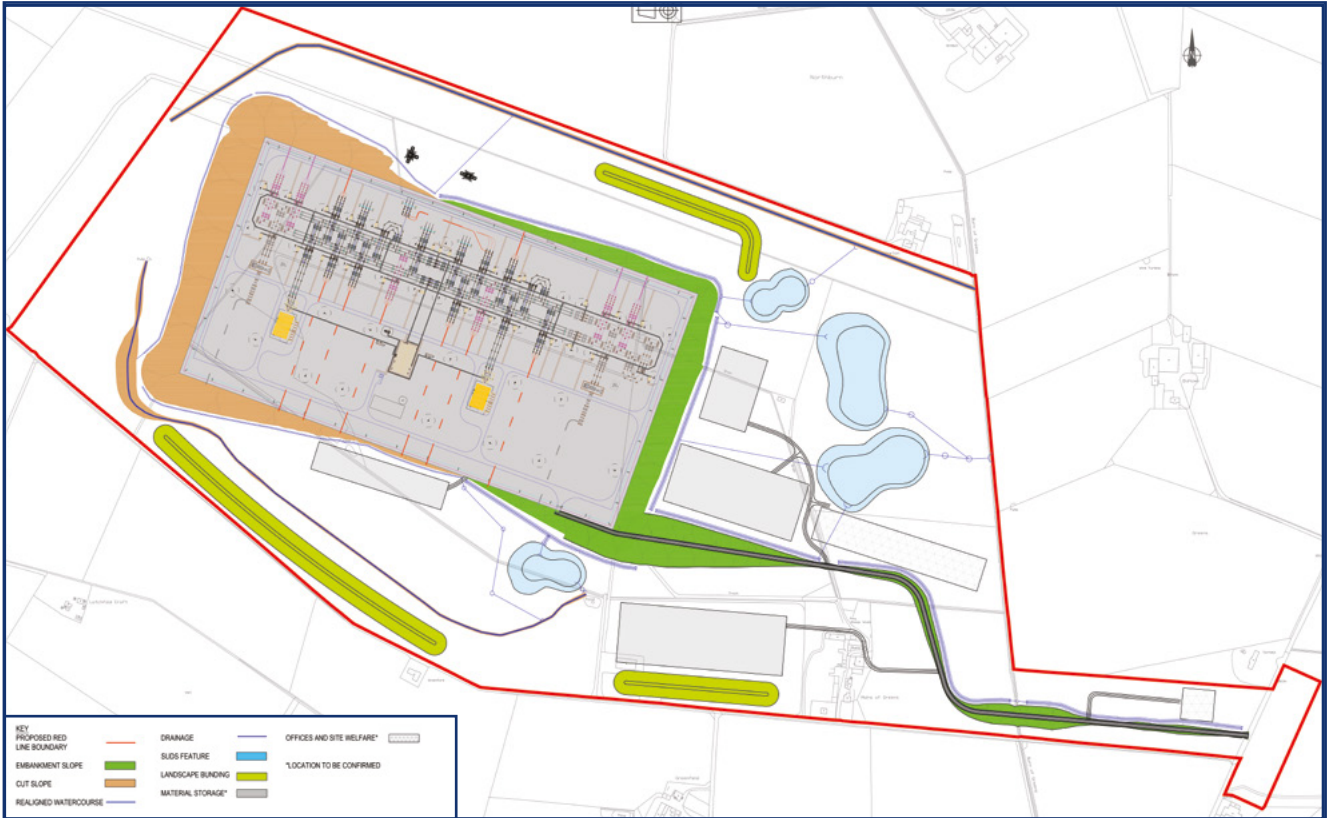
A Landscape and Habitat Management Plan (or equivalent) will be prepared to support the planning application and the project will also target the delivery of a minimum of 10% BNG across the application site (see separate BNG sections for more details on SSEN Transmission's commitment to the delivery of BNG).

Summary of forestry

The site does not lie within or close to any areas of Ancient Woodland and is not affected by any commercially viable plantations. The northern and western boundaries of the site are bounded by spruce woodland areas whilst sections of linear hedgerow are present within the site.

It is anticipated that some of these features will be lost as part of the development, and further detailed investigation will be required establish the extent of any removal, with any loss appropriately compensated for by equivalent (or greater) areas of new tree/hedgerow planting.

A Woodland Management Plan will be prepared and issued to support the planning application.



3D visualisations

We understand that local stakeholders need to be able to visualise what the development may look like in their local area.

We've commissioned 3D visualisations which model the substation into the local landscape to help understanding of the proposals in terms of the visual impact, distance and height.

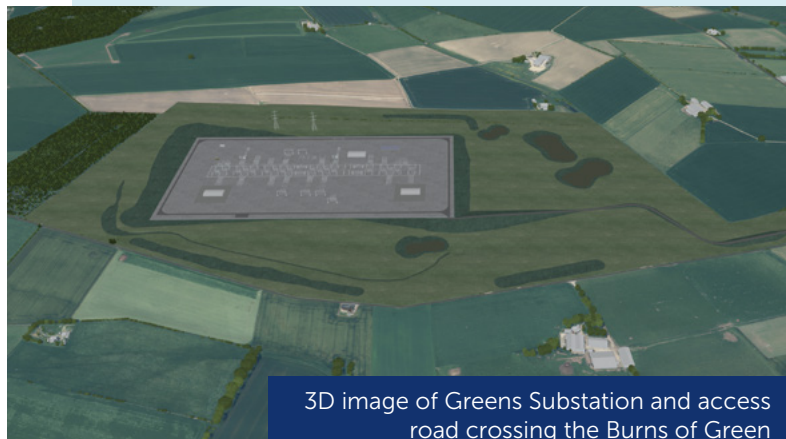
The following are some images taken from the 3D model created for the Greens substation.

A flythrough video is also available to view from the project webpage or via the QR code at the bottom of this page.

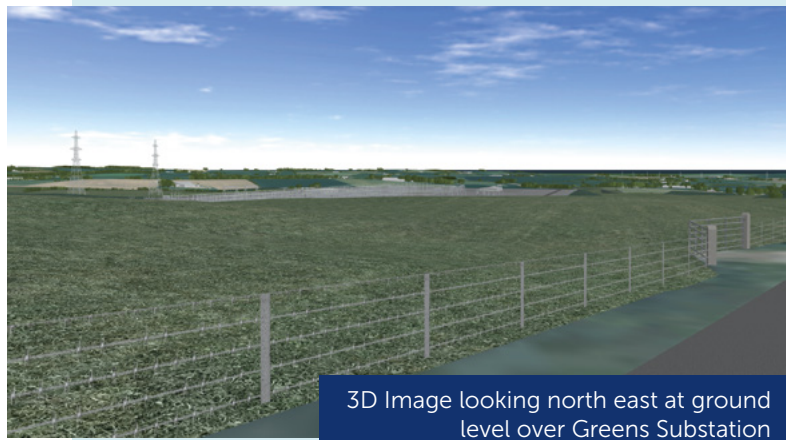
The layout and colour of our proposals may change based on feedback and further refinement of the design, if that happens, we'll update our model and video and share this on our webpage and with you at the next event.

Photomontages

Photomontage visualisations will also be produced as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Once the EIA is completed, we'll ensure these photomontages are easily available to view.



3D image of Greens Substation and access road crossing the Burns of Green



3D Image looking north east at ground level over Greens Substation



3D image of Greens Substation looking southwest from Middlehill



Find out more

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to view on the project website.

Delivering a positive environmental legacy

On every project we deliver, we always need to consider how we impact the environment in that area. As we enhance the transmission network in the North East of Scotland, we have a responsibility to design and build our projects to protect and enhance the environment.

We will always look to minimise the potential impacts from our activities and achieve Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). As the first developer to consult upon and implement an award-winning approach to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) on all new sites, we're committed to delivering a "greener grid", focusing on habitat restoration and creating biodiversity growth as we invest in our network. We are committed to delivering 10% Biodiversity Net Gain on all sites gaining consent going forward. This ensures that we don't just restore our natural habitats but actively improve them for the benefit of local communities, wildlife, flora and fauna.

During the development, construction and operation of our projects, we will leave the environment in a measurably better state than before development started, ensuring a positive environmental legacy at all our sites.

As this project progresses through the development process, we will actively seek ways to avoid and minimise impacts on biodiversity, through careful routing and site design to avoid impacting areas of highest biodiversity value.

Where avoidance is not possible, we will offset this by introducing new habitats along with restoration efforts. These can be achieved within the boundary of the development site, or by providing support to local groups involved with habitat restoration or creation projects, within the locale of the development site.

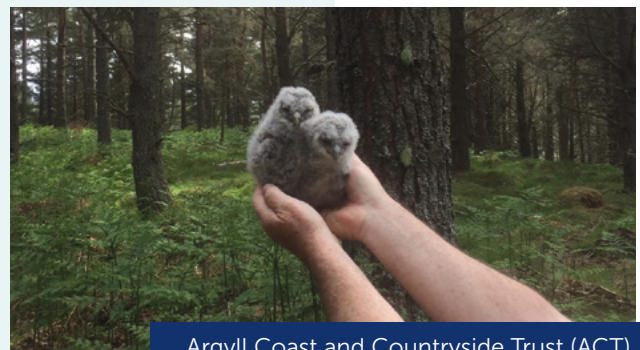
This ensures that we don't just restore our natural habitats but actively improve them for the benefit of local communities, wildlife, flora and fauna.

If there are biodiversity improvement projects in your local area that we could get involved with, please contact the Community Liaison Manager.

Example projects

Argyll Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT)

Argyll's rainforest is a unique and rare habitat of ancient and native woodland. This collaboration with ACT will help deliver SSEN Transmission's compensatory tree planting and BNG commitments in Argyll. It also aligns with ACT's woodland planting ambitions, supporting its charitable objectives including biodiversity gain, health and wellbeing, improvement for local people, outdoor learning opportunities and climate change workshops.



Argyll Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT)

Thurso South substation and The Bumblebee Conservation Trust

We created approximately 10 hectares of bee-friendly habitat to support the pollination of the rare endemic great yellow bumblebee.

This contributed to wider conservation efforts for this bee species. A collaboration with The Bumblebee Conservation Trust facilitated research on food availability for bumblebees, identifying the need for a diverse seed mix containing key flowering species to enhance early, main and late food supply to support the full lifecycle of bumblebees.



Thurso South substation and The Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Have your say

We value community and stakeholder feedback. Without this, we would be unable to progress projects and reach a balanced proposal.

The feedback period

We will accept feedback from now until 11 April 2024.

How to provide feedback

Submit your feedback online by scanning the QR code on this page or via the form on our project webpage at: ssen-transmission.co.uk/greens

Email the feedback form to the Community Liaison Manager. Or write to us enclosing the feedback form at the back of this booklet.

What we're seeking views on

During our last public consultation event in March 2023, we wanted to know your thoughts on the substation sites under consideration and if you agreed with the one we'd identified as best.

Now that we have taken forward a proposed site, we want you to share your thoughts and opinions on our plans, where you think we can make improvements, concerns about the impact of our work and what you think of any changes and refinements we've made.

We'll be actively looking to mitigate the impacts of the site as much as possible over the coming months, but it would be helpful to understand what you believe we should be doing to help minimise these impacts and if there are any opportunities to deliver a local community benefit you would like us to consider. We encourage all interested community members to fill in a feedback form when submitting feedback, however if you prefer, you can email us to provide your feedback or ask any questions.

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.

Community Liaison Manager

Rob Whytock
Community Liaison Manager

SSEN Transmission,
200 Dunkeld Road,
Perth, PH1 3GH

T: 07721 404576
E: rob.whytock@sse.com



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/greens



You can also follow us on social media

 [SSEN-Transmission](#)

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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.

Please select "Accessibility" on our website to try out our inclusive toolbar.

Your feedback

Thank you for taking the time to read this consultation 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. Now that we have shared updated design plans for this site, is there anything you'd like to bring to our attention that you believe we may not have already considered during project development?

Comments:

Q2. Are there any environmental features, that you consider important and should be brought to the attention of the project team?

Comments:

Q3. What suggestions for social or environmental community benefit opportunities do you have that you would like us to consider or are there any local initiatives you would like us to support?

Comments:

Q4. Is there anything regarding the Greens substation project that you feel you require more information about? If so, please detail below.

Comments:

Full name

Address

Telephone

Email

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

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.

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

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, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3GH **Email:** rob.whytock@sse.com

Online: ssen-transmission.co.uk/greens

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

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

ssen-transmission.co.uk/greens

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.

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