Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

North Argyll Newsletter

November 2026



This newsletter provides communities across North Argyll with the latest updates on our electricity transmission projects, including construction progress, upcoming work and community activity supported by our project teams.

Creag Dhubh substation project

Work at Creag Dhubh substation is progressing well, with activity now increasingly focused inside the gas-insulated switchgear buildings. Inside, the electrical installation teams will continue to run cabling between equipment in preparation for commissioning activities starting later this year.

Work to complete the roads and footpaths around the substation will resume shortly and is expected to finish by the end of November.

Installation of the super grid transformers delivered to site in July this year continues, with all commissioning work on these units expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The project remains on programme, with energisation currently targeted for Summer 2027.

Find out more and register for updates on the project webpage:
ssen-transmission.co.uk/creag-dhubh-substation

Creag Dhubh substation site overview, September 2026.



Creag Dhubh to Dalmally overhead line project

Construction on the Creag Dhubh to Dalmally overhead line project continues to make good progress, with several key activities advancing across the route.

All planned access tracks have now been completed, with only one access pad remaining. These tracks and working areas provide access for the teams and equipment needed to build the overhead line.

Foundation installation is approximately 80% complete. We're pleased to report that 33 towers have now been assembled. Of these, 29 have been erected to their full height, with the top sections in place. Stringing work, which involves installing the overhead wires between towers, continues in two of the three sections.

The project forms part of our wider programme to strengthen the electricity transmission network across Argyll and Kintyre, enabling future renewable energy connections and supporting the transition to cleaner energy and a more secure electricity supply.

As construction progresses, some temporary access track sections may be removed or restored in line with the relevant land and planning arrangements. Access remains subject to land ownership and the agreed use of individual tracks.

Find out more and register for updates on the project webpage:
ssen-transmission.co.uk/creag-dhubh-dalmally-275kv-connection

Completed access track on the Creag Dhubh to Dalmally project.



Creag Dhubh to Inveraray overhead line project

Access track, foundation and tower installation work is advancing along the Creag Dhubh to Inveraray overhead line route.

Access track construction is around 80% complete, providing access for the teams and equipment needed to build the overhead line. Foundation installation is approaching 50% completion. We're pleased to report that 16 towers have been assembled, with a further nine erected to their full height and their top sections in place.

The next planned activities include the start of tie-in work at An Suidhe and associated work to install cables underground.

The project team will continue to provide targeted information where construction activity may affect nearby residents, road users or local access arrangements. We'd like to thank local communities for their continued patience and cooperation while construction work progresses across the area.

Find out more and register for updates on the project webpage:

ssen-transmission.co.uk/creag-dhubh-inveraray-275kv-overhead-line/



Underground works completed at Tower 33



Final access track completion

Environmental monitoring across the overhead line projects

Environmental monitoring continues across the Creag Dhubh to Dalmally and Creag Dhubh to Inveraray overhead line projects as construction progresses. This includes ecology surveys, water-quality monitoring and regular checks to ensure agreed environmental protection and mitigation measures are being followed. Seasonal requirements, including those relating to lambing, have also been incorporated into the construction programmes.

Environmental volunteering at Glen Shira

Volunteers from SSEN Transmission, Siemens Energy and BAM recently joined Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) at Glen Shira to collect native tree seeds for woodland restoration projects. The team collected 2kg of hazelnuts and 2kg of hawthorn berries, which could help grow around 1,700 native trees to support Scotland's rainforest and local biodiversity.



Volunteers collecting native tree seeds



Native hazelnuts collected for future woodland restoration projects.

Working with local communities

The project teams have continued to support community and environmental activities across the area.

Supporting local schools

The Creag Dhubh substation project, contractors and suppliers supported the installation of new perimeter fencing at Taynuilt Primary School.



New perimeter fencing at Taynuilt Primary School.

Project representatives and contractors attended an early careers event at Dalmally Primary School to promote careers in the energy sector.

Following our involvement in previous years, we're looking forward to exploring how we can support the Mid Argyll and Kintyre MAKSTEM Festival again in 2027.



Dalmally careers event

Community Benefit Fund

Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund

The first awards from the Argyll and Kintyre Local Community Benefit Fund have now been announced, with more than £590,000 awarded to community projects across Argyll.

Large Project Fund

The funding will support a range of community-led projects and initiatives across the area, as part of SSEN Transmission's commitment to delivering a lasting positive legacy in communities hosting new electricity transmission infrastructure.

Further information on the successful projects is available on the SSEN Transmission website.

Microgrants

Microgrants of under £500 support smaller community projects and activities. They are available through a rolling programme, with at least two funding rounds each year. Timings vary by area, so interested groups should contact their local delivery partner for information about upcoming opportunities.

Delivery partner details are available at:
ssen-transmission.co.uk/argyll-fund-award

Regional Community Benefit Fund

The Regional Community Benefit Fund is open for applications, with £2 million available for projects supporting:

- skills and employability;
- heritage and culture; and
- the alleviation of fuel poverty across the north of Scotland.

Applications close at **1pm on Tuesday, 24 November 2026.**

For more information, visit the Regional Community Benefit Fund webpage.



Community Liaison Group

The Community Liaison Group meets quarterly, bringing together representatives from SSEN Transmission, our principal contractor and elected representatives from Inveraray and Dalmally.

The meetings provide an opportunity to discuss construction activity, community concerns, local priorities and opportunities for the project teams to support local initiatives. Feedback from members also helps inform our communications and engagement throughout construction.

Previous meeting minutes, presentations and project updates are available on the project webpages.

How do I keep up to date with these projects?

We'll continue to keep communities informed as construction progresses. This newsletter, along with other project updates, will be published on the relevant project webpages. A digital copy will also be sent to everyone registered for project updates.

You can register for updates and read previous newsletters, Community Liaison Group meeting information and construction updates on the project webpages.

We'll also share tailored information about activities that may affect nearby communities, including traffic management, major deliveries and other significant construction work.

If you'd like to receive future newsletters in print, or need information in an adapted format such as large print or braille, please contact Amanda. We're happy to discuss your requirements and will work with you to accommodate reasonable requests.

If you have any questions about the projects featured in this newsletter, please contact:

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