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16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Our ref:** LT155/Craig Murrail Substation

**Your ref:** ECU000004621

Dear Shafharia

**Construction of two temporary steel towers to support the temporary realignment of 668m of the existing 275 kV Inveraray to Crossaig overhead line during construction of the proposed Craig Murrail substation for a period of no more than 3 years. Following construction, the overhead line will be realigned to its existing alignment and connected into the new substation via downleads and the temporary towers will be removed, approximately 2.5 km north east of Lochgilphead and 2.9 km south west of Loch Glashan, Argyll and Bute.**

This application is being submitted by Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (operating and known as SSEN Transmission). SSEN Transmission is seeking consent under section 37 of The Electricity Act 1989 for the temporary realignment of the Inveraray to Crossaig 275kV overhead line (OHL) to allow construction and subsequent connection of the proposed Craig Murrail Substation, approximately 2.5 km north east of Lochgilphead and 2.9 km south west of Loch Glashan, Argyll and Bute.

The application fee of £600 has been paid via BACS and is based on the OHL length of 668m (comprising 472 m of OHL with the remainder being the downleads).

### **The Proposal**

The proposal comprises construction of two temporary steel towers to support the temporary realignment of 668m of the existing Inveraray to Crossaig 275 kV OHL in order to allow the construction of the proposed Craig Murrail substation (currently in planning). Following construction of the substation, the OHL will be realigned to its existing alignment and connected into the new substation via downleads. The temporary towers will then be removed. Key elements of the proposal are:

- Construction of two temporary steel lattice towers to support the temporary realignment of the existing OHL during construction. Post construction, the OHL will be realigned to its existing alignment and connected into the new substation and the temporary towers will be removed.

- Two downleads from the realigned overhead line into the substation; and
- Two temporary access tracks leading from the existing forestry access track to the temporary towers:
  - One of approximately 51 m in length; and
  - One of approximately 36 m in length.

### **Project Need**

The Proposed substation forms part of SSEN Transmission's Argyll and Kintyre Strategy and is required to manage the transportation of renewable energy generation from Argyll to the wider electricity network. The substation would connect into the existing 275 kV Overhead Line (OHL) from Inveraray to Crossaig. The primary driver for the Craig Murrail substation arises from a sustained increase in renewable energy generation proposals applying to connect to the Argyll and Kintyre network. Analysis of these applications, alongside an assessment of existing infrastructure has shown that the existing network capability will be exceeded. As such, reinforcement is needed to maintain compliance with the standards required of the network operator and to deliver provision for increase capacity to facilitate existing and predicted new generation connections.

### **The Application**

The proposal is not considered an 'EIA Development' under The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Accordingly, there is no requirement to produce an Environmental Impact Assessment Report under the EIA Regulations. However, an Environmental Appraisal (EA) has been carried out as a non-statutory assessment to allow appropriate environmental management and mitigation measures to be identified. The Application is supported by the following documents (see Annex 1 for full list of supporting information):

- Cover Letter
- Full set of plans and drawings
- EA Report

### **Next Steps**

We trust that the submission is complete and look forward to confirmation of receipt and validation. Should you have any queries or require further information please contact me on the details above. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Yours sincerely

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**Consents and Environment Manager**  
**Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Transmission**

## **Annex 1 – List of Supporting Documentation**

### **Reports**

Craig Murrail Substation Environmental Appraisal (EA)

### **Environmental Appraisal Technical Annexes**

Annex A: General Environmental Management Plans

Annex B: EIA Screening Opinion

Annex C: Landscape Assessment Methodology

Annex D: Landscape Character Sensitivity Table

Annex E: Photomontages and Landscape Figures

Annex F: Ornithology Consultation

Annex G: Extended Ecology Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Annex H: Species Protection Plans

Annex I: Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)

Annex J: Forestry

Annex K: Drainage Strategy and Drainage Plans

Annex L: Hydrology Methodology

Annex M: Private Water Supply Risk Assessment

Annex N: Water Construction Management Plan

Annex O: Peat Management Plan

Annex P: Peat Slide Risk Assessment

Annex Q: Routeing Report

Annex R: Cultural Heritage Appraisal and Site Gazetteer

Annex S: Noise and Vibration

### **Plans and Drawings**

Figure 1a - Site Location

Figure 1b - Site Boundary

Figure 2 - Site Layout

Figure 3 - OHL Tower Elevations

Figure 4a - Typical Access Track Sections Sheet 1

Figure 4b - Typical Access Track Sections Sheet 2

Figure 5 - Site Access Details