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7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Our ref:** LT194/Creag Dhubh to Inveraray OHL

**Your ref:** ECU000003442

Dear Lee

**Application to construct and operate an approximately 9 km double circuit 275 kV overhead line, supported by steel lattice towers, and associated connections, between a proposed substation at Creag Dhubh and the recently constructed Inveraray-Crossaig 275 kV capable OHL circuit**

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 to construct and operate an approximately 9 km double circuit 275 kV overhead line (OHL), supported by steel lattice towers, and associated connections, between a proposed substation at Creag Dhubh (subject to a separate planning application) and the recently constructed Inveraray-Crossaig 275 kV capable OHL circuit.

The application fee of £13,500 has been paid via BACS and is based on the OHL length of 9.32 km (comprising 9 km of OHL with the remainder being the downloads to the substation and connection to the existing Inveraray to Crossaig OHL).

### **The Proposal**

The proposal comprises construction of an approximately 9 km double circuit 275 kV OHL, supported by steel lattice towers, and associated connections, between a proposed substation at Creag Dhubh (subject to a separate planning application) and the recently constructed Inveraray-Crossaig 275 kV capable OHL circuit.

In addition to the above, there are ancillary works for the construction and maintenance of the OHL, including:

- vegetation management including tree felling to create a safe operational corridor for construction and operation;
- temporary OHL diversions to reduce circuit outages during the works;

- the formation and upgrade of bellmouths at public road access points\*;
- construction of new temporary and permanent construction (stone) access tracks and the upgrade of existing tracks;
- tower working areas, crane pads and winching positions; and
- road and other infrastructure (bridges, culverts etc.) alterations.

The Proposed Development will replace the existing 132 kV OHL asset which will be dismantled between the proposed substation at Creag Dhubh and Inveraray and removed as part of the project works.

\*Please note that Figure 4 'Creag Dhubh Substation Access' is being submitted for information only as this access forms part of the applications for the Creag Dhubh substation (Argyll and Bute Council reference 22/00782/PP) and the Creag Dhubh to Dalmally OHL (ECU00002199) and we are therefore not seeking consent for this as part of ECU0003442.

### **Project Need**

The Proposed OHL 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 OHL would connect the proposed Creag Dhubh substation to the existing 275 kV OHL from Inveraray to Crossaig. The primary driver for the proposed OHL 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 considered an 'EIA Development' under The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Accordingly, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report has been produced which presents an analysis of the environmental implications of the proposal. The Application is also supported by plans, a pre-application consultation (PAC) report and a planning statement (see Annex 1 for full list of supporting information).

### **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

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

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

### **Creag Dhubh to Inveraray 275 kV OHL Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report**

Volume 1 – Non-technical Summary

Volume 2 – Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report

Volume 3a – Figures

Volume 3b - Visualisations

Volume 4 – Technical Appendices

### **Plans and Drawings**

Figure 1 – Location Plan

Figure 2 – Proposed Development

Figure 3 – Typical Access Detail

Figure 4 – Creag Dhubh Substation Access (for information only)

### **Planning Statement**

### **Pre-application Consultation (PAC) Report**