



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

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10th March 2023

Your Ref: ECU00004733

Our Ref: LT122 Elchies

Dear Sirs,

Elchies (Rothes III) Wind Farm Grid Connection Works

Electricity Act 1989 and The Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (SHE Transmission Plc) is pleased to submit to the Scottish Ministers this application for consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 and deemed planning consent under Section 57(2) of The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for a new electric line installed above ground with a voltage of 132 kV or more between Rothes III Wind Farm on-site substation, and Blackhillock substation at Keith, Moray.

EIA Screening

The Screening Opinion adopted by Scottish Ministers (ref: ECU00003422) confirmed that the Proposed Development is not Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development and therefore does not need to be accompanied by a full EIA report. A voluntary Environmental Appraisal (EA) has been prepared and is submitted in support of this Section 37 application. The EA covers both the overhead line works and the proposed substation extension (which is subject to a separate planning application).

Proposed Development

Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3AQ

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The Proposed Development would include the following works, for which s.37 consent under the 1989 Act and deemed planning permission is sought:

- The installation and operation of approximately 24.3 km of new 132 kV trident pole (H Pole) OHL between a new Cable Sealing End (“CSE”) structure approximately 450 m to the southeast of Rothes III Wind Farm (Ordnance Survey (OS) grid reference 322434,847882) and a new CSE structure approximately 900 m north-west of Blackhillock substation (OS grid reference 342233,848695); and
- Ancillary works required to facilitate the construction and operation of the Proposed Development, including tree felling and vegetation clearance, temporary measures to protect road and water crossings, upgrades to existing access tracks and existing access points, new permanent and temporary access routes (i.e. Trackway, where required), permanent stone hardstanding areas related to the cable sealing end structure, and associated working areas around infrastructure to facilitate construction.

Chapter 2 of the EA provides more information on the proposed development.

Limit of deviation

This application seeks consent for a limit of deviation of 50 metres either side of the new OHL (100m in total) is requested. A limit of deviation of 30m is sought for the new access tracks as identified on Figure 3.1.

Ancillary development

The Proposed Development would also include the following works, which would fall under the our permitted development rights:

- Approximately 450 m of UGC between the Rothes III Wind Farm on-site substation (OS grid reference 322049, 848063) and a new CSE structure to the southeast; and
- Approximately 1.1 km of UGC between the new CSE structure which would be situated approximately 900 m north-west of Blackhillock substation and Blackhillock substation itself (OS grid reference 343098,848409).

Wayleaves

Wayleave maps and schedules are anticipated to be issued in next few weeks. We anticipate that there will be some landowners who will be unwilling to sign voluntary agreements and if that happens then 21 day notices will be issued with the fallback of necessary wayleave route.

Supporting Documents

The following documentation is submitted in support of this application:



1. Elchies (Rothes III) Wind Farm Frid Connection Environmental Appraisal, Appendices and figures;
2. Copy of draft newspaper advert

Newspaper Advert

A draft version of the newspaper advert has been submitted for agreement before placing in the press.

Application fee

The application fee of £28,080 has been paid via BACS (ref: 3011001694).

Working Hours

For the avoidance of doubt, as part of any grant of permission, SHE Transmission would seek to ensure that the working hours are covered off as a condition in line with our EA, that being approximately 07:00 to 19:00, for 7 days a week during the summer and 07:30 to 17:00 (or as daylight allows), for 7 days a week during the winter.

Should you have any queries, please contact me using the details above.

Yours faithfully,

Tommy Hart BLE (Hons) MRTPI

Lead Consents and Environment Manager
Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks

Annex 1 – s37 submission documents

- EA (inc. appendices and figures)
- Planning Statement
- Advert (draft)