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	Function	Major Projects

Meeting	Kintore Substation - Community Liaison Group (3)
Date	19th of January 2022
Time	6.00pm – 8.00pm

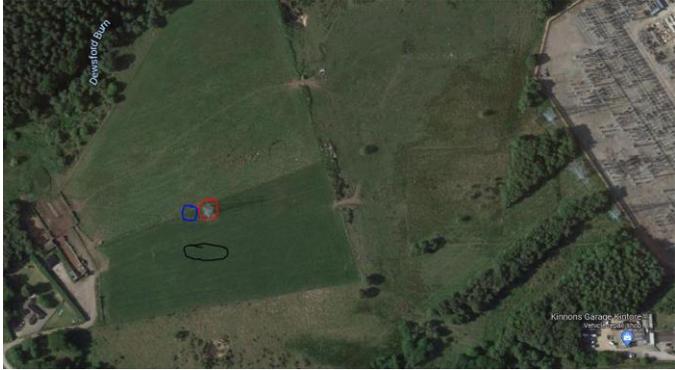
Kintore Substation CLG Attendees and Apologies:

Attendees	Position
Andy Henderson (AH)	SSEN Transmission Project Manager
Dav Lynch (DL)	SSEN Community Liaison Manager
Ross Forrester (RF)	Omexom Project Manager
Moira Moran (MM)	Kintore & District Community Council
Janine Cracknell (JC)	Kintore & District Community Council
Mike Shearer (MS)	Local Resident
Heather Watt (HW)	Inverurie Community Council
Cllr David Keating (DK)	East Garioch Ward - Aberdeenshire Council
Debbie Korver (DK1)	Local Resident
Apologies	Position
Alexander Burnett (AB)	MSP for Aberdeenshire West
Ann Overton (AO)	Garioch Area Manager - Aberdeenshire Council

Minutes

1.0	Introductions and apologies
1.1	<p>Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves to the rest of the group.</p> <p>RF was joining the CLG for the first time and introduced himself and explained his role to the group.</p> <p>Apologies: Alexander Burnett & Ann Overton *</p>
2.0	Approval of previous minutes and matters arising
2.1	Minutes from the first CLG meeting were approved. Proposed by MM and seconded by DK. DL confirmed these minutes would be published on the project website. www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/kintore-400kv-substation/
3.0	Safety Moment
4.1	<p>AH presented the project overview starting with a safety moment and discussed “January Blues” slide to the group. This highlights the impact of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and covers “Blue Monday”. The slide includes various tips to try and overcome this. This was included as a topical safety moment which was included considering the amount of time spent working from home and the impact of Covid 19.</p> <p>DK pointed out the importance of also considering when the clocks change in spring and how this might affect people.</p>
5.0	Project Overview / Update
5.1	<p>AH provided an overview of the North East and East Coast reinforcements via a new substation at Kintore which involves a phased development of a new substation operating at 400kV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 to be completed to tie in with the network north of Kintore in October 2023 Phase 2 to be completed for the network south of Kintore energising to 400kV operation in 2026.

	<p>AH presented an image of the site layout which highlights the Overhead Lines (OHL) from Rothienorman, Blackhillock, Tealing and Fetteresso.</p> <p>AH explained that local customer connections are driving the upgrade of the North East network to 400kV. This includes installing 2no 400kV Line Feeders (Rothienorman) connected Supergrid Transformers (SGT) Bays to step down the voltage to connect to the existing Kintore 275kV busbar via 2no new 275kV bays. Approximately 7 Hectares of cut/fill over a level difference of around 11m will be required to form the platform in the first instance. The building will be built during Phase 1 and partially fitted out as the small annex is required to house all low voltage equipment. Heavy Civils will continue throughout 2022 with High Voltage Electrical and Mechanical Works continuing into June 2023.</p> <p>AH displayed the project timeline for Phase 1.</p>
6	Project Update – Since last CLG
6.1	<p>AH presented images of the current progress at site. AH explained the bulk earthworks (cut & fill) is well underway and the crushing of stone continues. Retaining wall works have also commenced as well as further excavation for building foundations.</p> <p>AH then presented drone footage of site and pointed out where the cut and fill exercise would take place. “Blasting” that was previously discussed at a previous CLG meeting would no longer be carried out. The project has made the decision to continue to peck stone, with hydraulic breakers, as an alternative to blasting.</p> <p>MM commented that she as pleased blasting would no longer be taking place as this would be disturbing to locals and the environment.</p>
6.2	<p>AH talked about the impact of Storm Arwen and that 2 areas of our land had been badly damaged as a result of the storm. This area was pointed out using the drone images. AH explained that a number of tree’s are leaning and some have exposed root balls. AH explained that SSEN Transmission will be applying for a felling licence to clear up the damaged trees. Action for AH to clarify the extent of felling and confirm when this wil take place.</p> <p>MS raised the point that red squirrels live within the woodland and the area is an important coridor for wildlife. AH advised he will feed this back to the enviornmental team. RF confirmed there is a full-time environmental advisor on site would be involved in any decisions regarding environmental impact. MS was encouraged to hear this and reiterate his thoughts on keeping as much screening as possible.</p> <p>MM asked if this will affect the visibility of the site? AH responded by explaining that there are still tree’s sheilding the area and we will do our best to limit the number of tree’s that are felled to leave the trees where possible. AH also confirmed that tree’s would be replanted for biodiversity purposes.</p>
6.3	<p>AH provided a “lookahead” and highlighted more specifical details and a diagram of the cut and fill element of the work. AH confirmed that the cut and fill exercise will continue to the end of Q1 2022. AH explained the contractor are now experiencing reduced productivity in the lower layers of rock resulting in an extended programme of hydraulic breaking, but as previously explained we do not expect to blast.</p> <p>AH explained that due to a shortfall in rock within the ground there will be a need to import stone from local quarries and the extent of this is currently being explored. He also confirmed that building had commenced early and both building, and earthworks are on track for completion in 2022.</p>
5.5	<p>AH displayed the Phase 2 slides for reference and showed the group the timeline.</p> <p>JC raised the point that local community members had raised concerns about the proximity of works to the Dewsford burn and asked if there was potential for earth to get in the burn or any potential flood risk.</p> <p>AH confirmed that Omexom had sought advice from Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) on their intended works adjacent to the burn and the general feedback from SEPA was positive.</p> <p>Regards the silt water mitigation measures to protect the Dewsford burn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Omexom have now cut in a significant ditch to the South of the site to keep the clean water from the wetland area away from the earthworks area which results in drawing the majority of water to a 3m deep sump which then pumps the water out over an existing natural swale. b) Regardless there is silt mitigation in place for the platform run off which does run towards the North East of the platform through the tiered ponds and silt buster / settlement tanks prior to discharging clean water into Dewsford burn.

	<p>RF reiterated the importance of the onsite environmental advisor who would oversee the burn would not be polluted.</p> <p>DK1 raised the question about if this would have any affect on the wells for her private water supply and raised concerns on the flow of her properties water. AH explained that the burn runs from left to right, downstream of the private water supply and this would mean there would be no impact to her well and private water supply. AH confirmed he was happy to make this commitment.</p> <p>RF confirmed that as part of the temporary dam system the water shall be directed across the dams via pipework therefore not stopping the flow of water. Ross confirmed this is scheduled to be complete by summer 2022.</p>
5.6	<p>MS pointed out that although he had not spent much time in the garden over winter, the works had not been particularly noisy. He mentioned that he can sometimes hear picking however it is not causing disturbance.</p> <p>MS raised the point that the lights in the carpark are very bright and could potentially be blinding for vehicles passing. DK1 agreed with this. AH confirmed that he would take this as an action to reposition the lights to try to limit the impact of them.</p> <p>DL mentioned that if this was not satisfactory to contact him directly.</p>
6.0	Community Queries
6.1	<p>MM raised a hand to ask a question regarding a concerned landowner who attended the consultation event in October. The landowner had been unhappy that the PoAN included grounds not owned by SSEN Transmission. AH confirmed our Land Manager had been in contact with the individual and confirmed that current PoAN would be refined and amended as part of the planning submission. This would include environmental and economic considerations.</p>
6.2	<p>MS asked the question regarding potential road widening for deliveries of large equipment/transformers. AH explained that this has been assessed and that there are no plans, at present, to widen any roads. Potential street furniture (lampposts and handrails etc) may be required to be temporary moved, however road widening is not expected.</p>
6.3	<p>DK1 raised the question regarding the trees marked and numbered in the below area:</p>  <p>AH confirmed that these trees were marked for potential bat boxes and other possible environmental benefits. MS asked if these trees would be felled as he would be very disappointed considering the trees are over 100 years old. RF confirmed that these trees would not be felled, however, they will require height reduction for the temporary overhead line diversion.</p>
6.4	<p>DK1 asked the question if the pylon marked below would be moving nearer her property:</p>  <p>AH outlined the consented design whereby the overhead line is temporarily diverted onto a tower in approximately the black circled area above to facilitate the erection of the new tower in approximately the blue circled area above. Therefore the tower will in the final arrangement be approximately 30m behind the existing tower.</p> <p>MS & DK1 both made the point that this now becomes much more visitable to the Dewsford properties.</p>
7.0	AoB

7.1	DL explained we are always keen to help out in the local community and explained SSE's volunteering programme "Be the Difference Volunteer Day" and encouraged any interested parties to contact him directly. DK asked if materials would be provided by SSE. DL explained that SSEN would provide the staff and labour but would be unlikely to provide material due to being a regulated business. We would certainly explore any opportunities where existing materials could potentially be of use when supporting any projects. DL suggested the date of 27 th of April 2022, 6pm-8pm for the next CLG. The group agreed this date was suitable. DL asked the question of potentially holding these events face to face (covid allowing), It was agreed that a hybrid approach would be best and if a face to face event is organised then members would also be able to join virtually.
8.0	Date of next CLG
11.1	Wednesday 27 th of April 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Actions.

Number	Action / Update	Owner	Open/Closed
1.	Andy and Ross to look to adjust the lights to minimise the impact	AH	Closed – see below
2.	Andy to clarify the extent of felling and confirm when this will take place	DL	Closed – see below

Update on Action 1:

The lights at the South-East corner of the car park have been turned so that they do not shine towards the B977 for oncoming traffic from Westhill.

Update on Action 2:

The areas that require further felling following Storm Arwen can be seen highlighted in blue below.

It is our expectation that both areas can be felled within a working week, however, at this stage we have not got a forestry contractor on board to confirm if there will be knock on effects of the felling to areas which are not marked in blue. Regardless both areas will be replanted to compensate for the stock which has been felled. An application for felling licence has been applied for with the Scottish Forestry Authority (this includes an obligation to replant the area).

The felling works cannot commence until the licence has been granted but we expect this to be achievable before the next CLG.

Area A:



Area B:

