



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION



Loch na Cathrach

(previously Red John Pumped Storage)

Feedback event

June 2024



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The Feedback event will be taking place on:

Wednesday 12 June, 2–6.30pm

Green Drive Hall, 36 Green Dr, Inverness IV2 4EU



Powering change together

The time has come to further enhance Scotland's energy infrastructure, providing power for future generations as we move towards net zero.

The shift to a cleaner, more sustainable future is about more than climate change. It's about ensuring future generations have the same opportunities to thrive as we have all had.

Countries around the world are investing in their energy infrastructure to support the demands of modern economies and meet net zero targets. The UK is leading the way in building a modern, sustainable energy system for the future.



We all have a part to play

When it comes to net zero, we have to be in it together. The UK and Scottish governments have ambitious net zero targets, and we're playing our part in meeting them.

We work closely with the National Grid Electricity System Operator to connect vast renewable energy resources—harnessed by solar, wind, hydro and marine generation—to areas of demand across the country. Scotland is playing a big role in meeting this demand, exporting two thirds of power generated in our network.

But there's more to be done. By 2050, the north of Scotland is predicted to contribute over 50GW of low carbon energy to help deliver net zero. Today, our region has around 9GW of renewable generation connected to the network.

At SSEN Transmission, it is our role to build the energy system of the future.

We're investing £20 billion into our region's energy infrastructure this decade, powering more than ten million UK homes and 20,000 jobs, 9,000 of which will be here in Scotland.



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to find out more about how these policies have been assessed and determined.

Who we are

We're responsible for maintaining and investing in the electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland. We're part of SSE plc, one of the world's leading energy companies with a rich heritage in Scotland that dates back more than 80 years. We are also closely regulated by the GB energy regulator Ofgem, who determines how much revenue we are allowed to earn for constructing, maintaining and renovating our transmission network.

What we do

We manage the electricity network across our region which covers a quarter of the UK's land mass, crossing some of the country's most challenging terrain. We connect renewable energy sources to our network in the north of Scotland and then transport it to where it needs to be. From underground and subsea cables and overhead lines to electricity substations, our network keeps your lights on all year round.

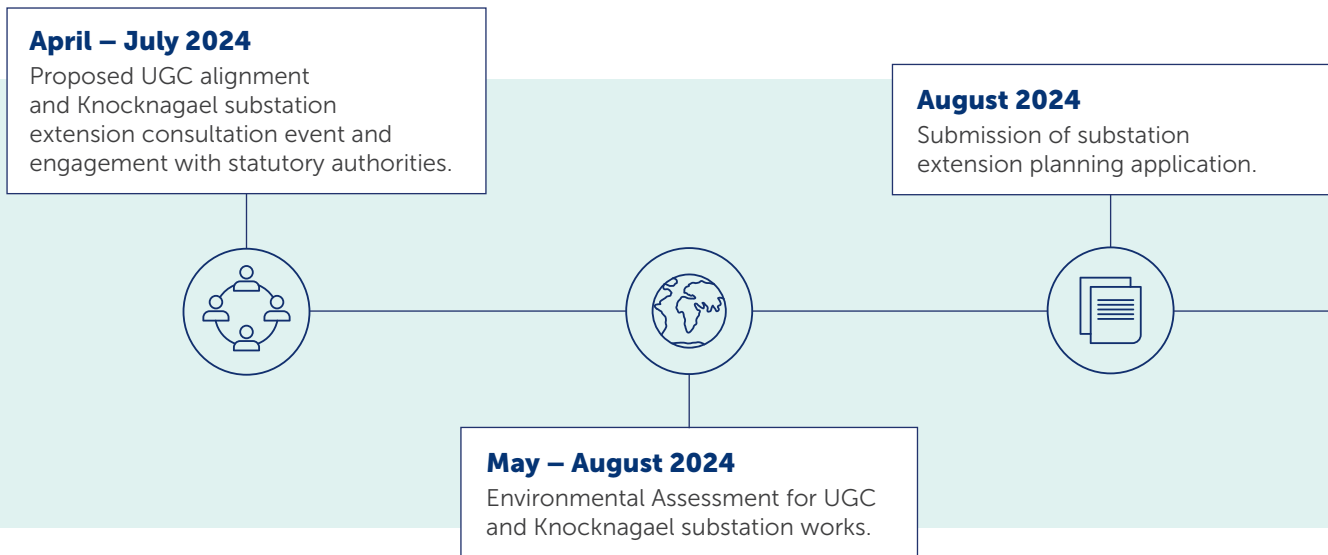
Working with you

We understand that the work we do can have an impact on our host communities. So we're committed to minimising our impacts and maximising all the benefits that our developments can bring to your area. We're regularly assessed by global sustainability consultancy AccountAbility for how we engage with communities. That means we provide all the information you need to know about our plans and how they will impact communities like yours. The way we consult is also a two-way street. We want to hear people's views, concerns, or ideas and harness local knowledge so that our work benefits their communities: today and long into the future. You can share your views with us at: ssen-transmission.co.uk/talk-to-us/contact-us/

Project need and overview

SSEN Transmission are required to provide a connection to the Statkraft's Loch na Cathrach Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) Scheme (450 Megawatts (MW)) near Dores, Highlands approximately 14km south-west of Inverness.

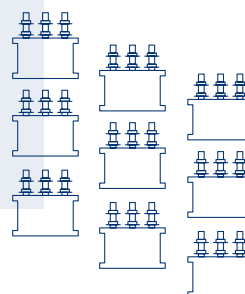
Project timeline



Project overview

Loch na Cathrach PSH Connection works include:

- Construction of a new 2 bay 275kV Air Insulated Substation (AIS) Switching Station at the Loch na Cathrach PSH Scheme.
- Installation of 9km of 275kV underground cabling between Loch na Cathrach PSH Scheme and Knocknagael Substation.
- An extension to the existing Knocknagael platform to accommodate the new 275kV cable connection to Loch na Cathrach PSH Scheme.

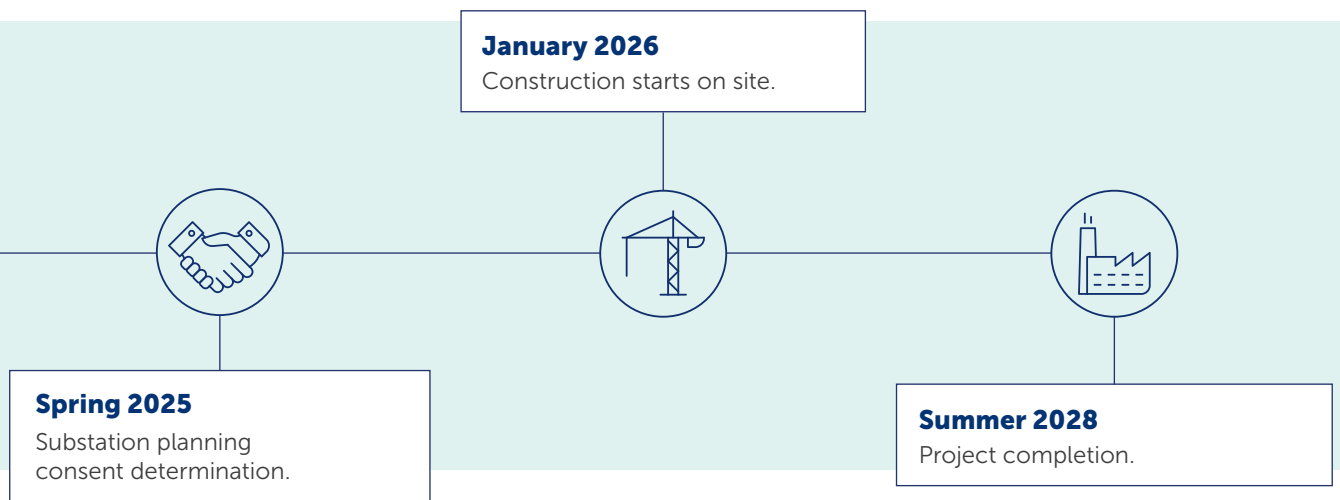


Loch na Cathrach Pump Storage Scheme 275kV Connection

Under our Network Operators Licence we are required to deliver the connection in a technically efficient, co-ordinated and economic manner, whilst having the least practicable impact on people and the environment. The connection for Loch na Cathrach is to be provided at 275 Kilovolts (kV) (275,000 volts) and is currently proposed to be via Underground Cable (UGC).

Since our consultation event in December 2022 the Loch na Cathrach Pump Storage scheme connection requirement has changed from a firm (resilient) connection to a non-firm connection. This now means that only one circuit is required to connect. As a result there have been changes to the proposals for the Knocknagael substation extension and UGC alignment.

The UGC will connect to the main transmission network at the existing Knocknagael 275kV substation. In order to facilitate this connection an extension is required to the existing Knocknagael substation platform to accommodate the additional electrical equipment required. At the Loch na Cathrach end of the UGC connection, a new switching station will be constructed within the Loch na Cathrach PSH site. The switching station constructed at the Loch na Cathrach PSH scheme has been consented as part of the Loch na Cathrach PSH scheme consent.



Planning process

A planning application for the construction and operation of the proposed Knocknagael substation extension will be submitted under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended). The underground cable will benefit from Permitted Development rights as set out under Class 40 1(a) of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992.

A temporary stone access track may be required to install the UGC. A planning application for the stone track will be submitted to the Highland Council under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended). This will be a separate planning application to the substation extension application.

Our consultation process

At SSEN Transmission, we are committed to delivering a robust and transparent consultation process underpinned by inclusion and accessibility. As a stakeholder led business, we understand the importance of involving communities and key stakeholders throughout each stage of our development process.

This period of engagement in the development phase is vital in shaping our proposals and to do this effectively, we need to capture feedback from stakeholders, harness local knowledge to identify key risks and explore potential community benefit opportunities.

Today, we are presenting feedback following our first Pre-Application Consultation event held in April 2024. We will also provide detail on the next steps and how communities can continue to engage with the project team until planning is submitted to the Highland Council.

Throughout the development of the project, we have engaged with the local community, starting with early engagement in April 2022, presenting a high level overview and invited feedback on our proposed route and substation extension options. Following feedback, we presented our alignment for the underground cable and preferred substation extension proposals in December 2022. In April 2024, we presented our latest underground cable alignment and proposal for the extension of the substation platform. If you require additional support to submit your views, please contact our Community Liaison Manager Ryan Davidson who will happily assist you.



Our proposed solution

As well as...
Locating...
The propo...
visual imp...
identical...
relatively...

ent space, modern safety...
By extending an ex...
The type and...
will match...
will comply...
switching sta...
As part of...
switching...
compliance...
The existing plan...
replaced with a...



Key components

- Two new grid transformer bays, connecting onto station, comprising
 - Foundations to support the grid transformers
 - Oil containment bunds for the transformers
- Two new 92MVA grid transformers, with 132kV and associated busbars.

What we're presenting today

Following our first Pre-Application Consultation event, we are presenting our final proposals for the underground cable alignment option and the substation extension. This will include our response to public feedback and how we have taken these into consideration if and where applicable.

Who we consulted with

We consulted and received feedback from a broad range of stakeholders including but not limited to local residents, landowners, businesses, non-statutory consultees and statutory consultees such as local authorities, NatureScot, SEPA, Historic Environment Scotland and Scottish Forestry.

Next steps

Communities and stakeholders can continue to engage with the project team and any feedback received prior to planning submission will be reviewed for consideration.

Once the planning application has been submitted, we will provide notification to all interested parties registered for project updates.

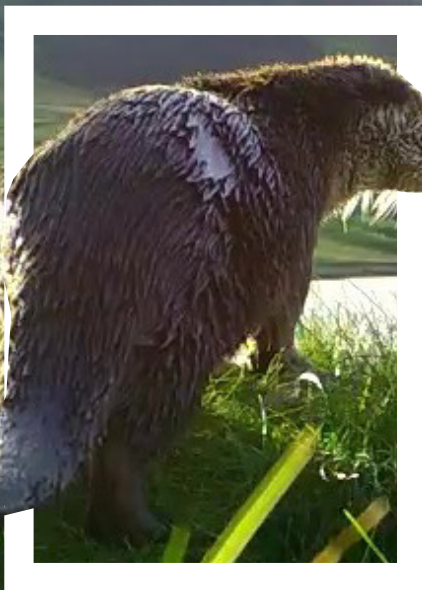


Biodiversity net gain

We recognise that we have significant interaction with the environment through the activities we undertake in Scotland as we seek to develop and improve the transmission network. With this work comes a legal responsibility to design and build our projects in a manner which protects the natural and built environment.

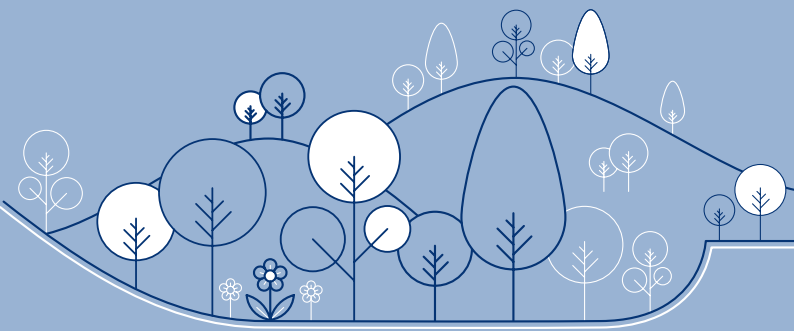
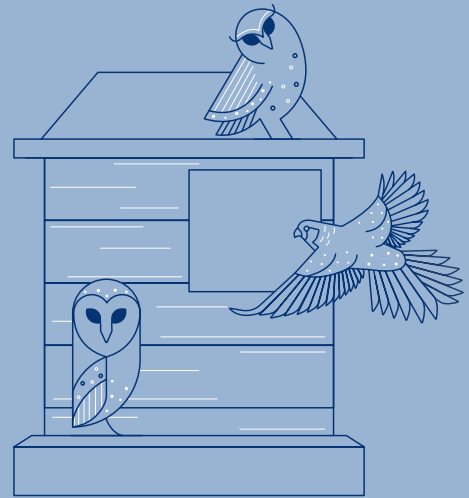
We are committed to protecting and enhancing the environment by minimising the potential impacts from our construction and operational activities on biodiversity. To this end, we have committed to net gain of biodiversity on all projects gaining consent. This means that during the development, construction and operation of our projects, we will leave a positive environmental legacy at all of our SSEN Transmission sites. As this project

progresses through the development process, we will actively seek ways to avoid and minimise impacts on biodiversity, through careful routing design to avoid areas of highest biodiversity value, to implementing habitat restoration and improvement measures in areas within and surrounding the proposed development. Some examples of biodiversity improvements that have been implemented on other recent projects include:



Creag Rhiabach bird boxes:

Installation of wooden bird boxes made from reused and recycled construction materials to support local raptor populations at key locations across the highlands, including kestrels, tawny owl and barn owl.



Argyll Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) Woodland Planting Collaboration

Argyll's rainforest is a unique and rare habitat of ancient and native woodland. This collaboration with ACT will help deliver SSEN Transmission's compensatory tree planting commitments in Argyll while helping towards ACT's woodland planting ambitions, supporting its charitable objectives including biodiversity gain, health and wellbeing improvement for local people, outdoor learning opportunities and climate change workshops.

Thurso South Substation:

Creation of approximately 10 hectares of pollinator habitat to support the rare endemic great yellow bumblebee and contribute to wider conservation efforts for this species.



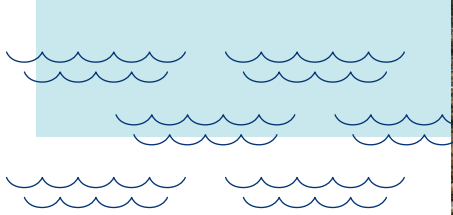
Please let us know if you have ideas for biodiversity improvement projects in your local area that SSEN Transmission could get involved with.

Our underground cable routing and design process

SSEN Transmission has developed and implemented formal guidance for the selection of routes and alignments for its new Underground Cable (UGC).

The main aim of the Guidance is to provide a consistent approach to the selection of new UGC alignments and is underpinned by our statutory obligations to: 'Develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economical electricity transmission system in its licenced area' and in so doing, to 'have regard to the desirability of preserving the natural beauty, of conserving flora, fauna and geological and physiographical features of special interest and protecting sites, buildings and objects of architectural, historic or archaeological interest; and do what we reasonably can to mitigate any effect which the proposals would have on the natural beauty of the countryside or on any such flora, fauna, features, sites buildings or objects'. These duties capture the principal objective of the routing process which is to balance technical and cost considerations with environmental

considerations, to select a proposed alignment which is economically viable, technically feasible, minimises impacts on important resources or features of the environment and reduces disturbance to those living in it, working in it, visiting it or using it for recreational purposes. Site selection follows a similar process to that of the UGC routing detailed on the next page, following a number of refinement stages to determine the most appropriate site, based on environmental, engineering and economical factors. In this instance the site of connection is at the existing Knocknagael Substation and therefore a site selection study is not required. However, in selecting the most suitable area in which to extend the existing Knocknagael Substation to accommodate the connection the same criteria will be used in order to select the optimum solution.



Key stages

For new UGC projects, the process follows four principal stages, each iterative and increasing in detail and resolution, bringing cost, technical and environmental considerations together in a way which seeks the best balance.

Stage.1



Strategic options assessment/routing strategy

The starting point in all UGC projects is to establish the need for the project and to select the preferred strategic option to deliver it. This process will be triggered by the preparation of a number of internal assessments and documents which identify the technology to be used and the point on the existing transmission network where a connection can be made. In the case of the Loch na Cathrach PSH this point is at Knocknagael Substation.

Stage.2



Corridor selection

Corridor selection seeks to identify possible corridors which are as short as practicable, which are not constrained by altitude or topography and which would avoid, where possible, any interaction with man-made infrastructure and features of environmental sensitivity. Corridors may be 1km wide or may extend over many kilometres in width, depending on the scale and length of the project. For the project included in this consultation, the corridor stage is omitted as the location of the Loch na Cathrach PSH and point of connection on the network naturally define a corridor of a few kilometres in width. Routing a new UGC any further afield than this would be too expensive and add unnecessary infrastructure to the landscape.

Stage.3



Route selection

Route selection seeks to find a route within the corridor which avoids where possible physical, environmental and amenity constraints, is likely to be acceptable to stakeholders, and is economically viable, taking in to account factors such as altitude, slope, ground conditions and access. The dimensions of a route will depend on the context provided by the corridor. A route may be several kilometres in length and may range from 200m to 1km in width, depending on the scale of the project, the nature and extent of constraints and the character of the area in question. A number of route options are usually identified and assessed, leading to a preferred route being selected.

Stage.4



Alignment selection

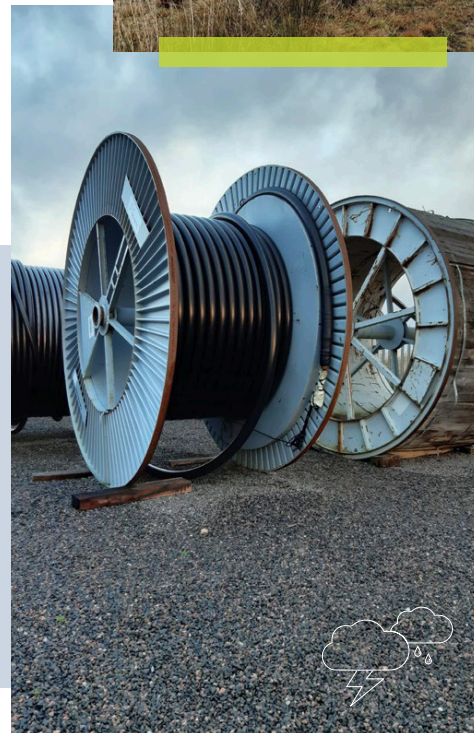
Alignment selection seeks to identify an alignment within the preferred route and to define the access strategy which will be adopted in terms of, for example, the nature and extent of temporary and/or permanent access tracks and possible road improvements. It will be influenced by local constraints, such as individual properties, their aspect, and amenity; ground suitability; habitats; and cultural heritage features and setting. There may be more than one distinct alignment option through the preferred route. It is more likely however that variants to sections of an alignment may arise where there are different ways to avoid a constraint.

What happens next?

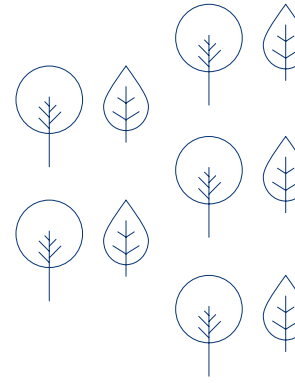
Following further stakeholder engagement with the public, statutory bodies and landowners, the proposed alignment will be finalised and taken forward for formal environmental assessment and consent application where required.

Key engineering considerations:

- Construction costs and buildability (largely affected by ground conditions, such as peat/rock/flooding/contaminated land, etc).
- Operations and maintenance requirements
- Outage requirements and network constraints
- Vicinity to other existing electrical OHL and underground structures, as well as existing substation infrastructure.
- Vicinity to any other utility, overhead or underground
- Existing land boundaries and ownership.
- Environmental constraints
- Communications masts and infrastructure
- Urban development
- Forestry and biodiversity
- Technology costs and design parameters.
- Site accessibility
- Route length



Environmental considerations



Site survey and desk-based assessment has been undertaken to gather data and understand the key environmental constraints and opportunities within the local area. This process has helped to identify the key environmental issues for this project. A Voluntary Environmental Appraisal is currently being developed to report the findings.

Natural heritage designations

Loch Ashie Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), located approximately 3 km east of Loch Ness, is designated for regularly supporting a non-breeding population of the Annex 1 species Slavonian grebe *Podiceps auritus*, representing 10% of the UK population of this species. Loch Ashie is the most important moult site in Scotland for this species.

The Inner Moray Firth SPA, located approximately 7.5 km to the north of Knocknaegal Substation, is designated for its populations species of European importance including Osprey.



Photo: Evelyn Grant

Ornithology, habitats and protected species

Non breeding populations of Slavonian grebe associated with the Loch Ashie SPA and SSSI, are present in the area. Two Schedule 1 birds (Red Kite and Osprey) were recorded during survey. Suitable habitat to support other breeding birds and a number of common and widespread bird species (including Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC)) were also identified during survey.

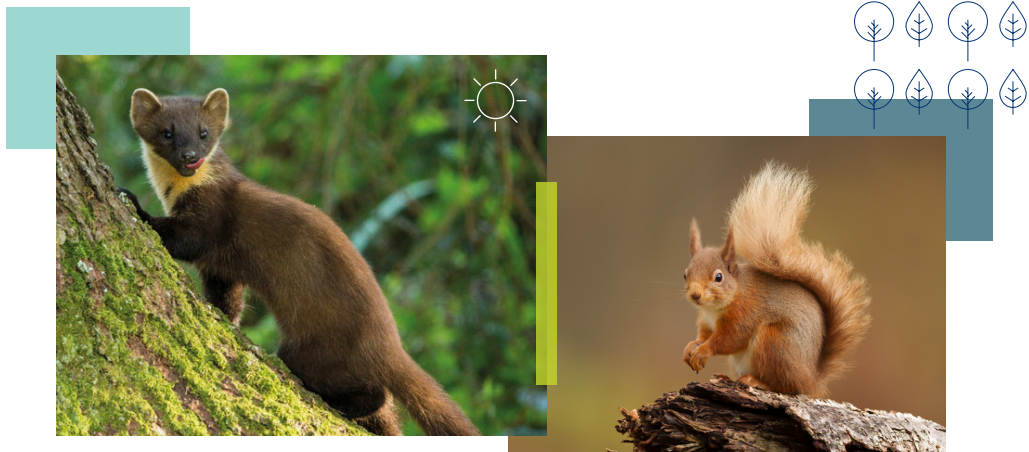
A breeding bird survey identified two lekking Black Grouse at two locations between the north shore of Loch Ashie and the alignment. It is possible that this is a newly established lekking location, representing an expansion of the local distribution of this species and which may be particularly sensitive to disturbance. However, no Black Grouse were identified during a follow up survey.

Broadleaved woodland and scrub in the area provides foraging and commuting habitat for bats and surveys have identified trees around Knocknaegal Substation as having features with bat roosting potential. Bats are recorded

within the wider area and are likely to use these habitats. European protected species known to occur in the area, include otter, water vole, pine marten, badger, red squirrel and wildcat. UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species including European hare are also known to occur in the area. Suitable habitat for these species is present.

Habitats present within the area comprise coniferous woodlands (both plantation and semi-natural) and areas of broadleaved woodland, unimproved, semi-improved and improved grassland, arable fields and upland heathland. There are areas of woodland recorded on the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS) as Annex I habitat, Caledonian forest. There is also an area of blanket bog to the south on the west side of General Wade's Military Road.

The planning application will include ecology and ornithology assessments and informed by associated site survey that has been completed since 2022. The assessment will set out anticipated effects and appropriate mitigation to reduce any effects.



Landscape and visual

The planning application will include a landscape and visual assessment. This will be informed by site survey and photomontages, and will include a proposed landscape and habitat management plan which will set out proposed earthworks and planting proposals as mitigation predominantly surrounding the proposed substation extension works. The underground cable but virtue of it being underground will likely only have potential to create temporary landscape and visual effects during construction. Upon completion of installation of the UGC it will not be visible other than for a limited number of joint bays, marker posts and short sections of permanent stone tracks for access to these locations.

The southern section of the alignment extends into the northern edge of the Loch Ness and Duntelchaig Special Landscape Area. Leys Castle Garden and Designed Landscape is located approximately 2 km north-east of the substation. This is a key reason for why the grid connection is proposed as an underground cable rather than an overhead line.

Cultural heritage

There are a number of listed buildings, scheduled monuments and Gardens and Designed Landscapes located in the area. There are also several non-designated assets in the wider area. These indicate a broad and diverse range of previous function and use, dating from the Neolithic to the 19th century. As a result of the known archaeological presence there is a high likelihood of unknown archaeology assets present in the area. The planning application will include a cultural heritage assessment to identify any on-site archaeological investigation that would be required before construction works commence and if required a Written Scheme of Investigation would be prepared which would set out a strategy for archaeological mitigation in advance of the construction works. Appropriate commitments would be agreed with The Highland Council in advance of any works.

Forestry

There are a number of forestry compartments in the wider area designated as ancient woodland inventory sites (AWIS), with the compartments most prevalent in the southern section of the alignment. In Scotland, Ancient Woodland is defined as land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded, at least since 1750. Forestry survey has taken place to inform the avoidance of forestry as part of the design process. As such the requirement for tree felling has been minimised as far as practicable. Forestry assessment will be reported in the planning application along with proposed mitigation.

Land use

A number of core paths are present in the area along with the Caledonia Way National Cycle Path (National Route 78) and the Loch Ness 360 trail. Land capability for agriculture in the area is generally categorised as supporting mixed agriculture and improved grassland. An access management plan will be developed by the Principal Contractor prior to works commencing to ensure existing public paths remain accessible. A construction traffic management plan will also be developed to control construction traffic activity which is compatible with existing public road use.

Hydrology and geology

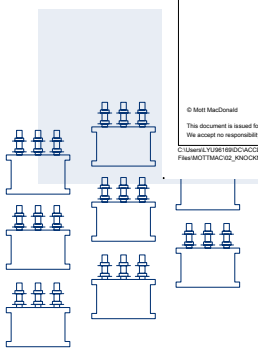
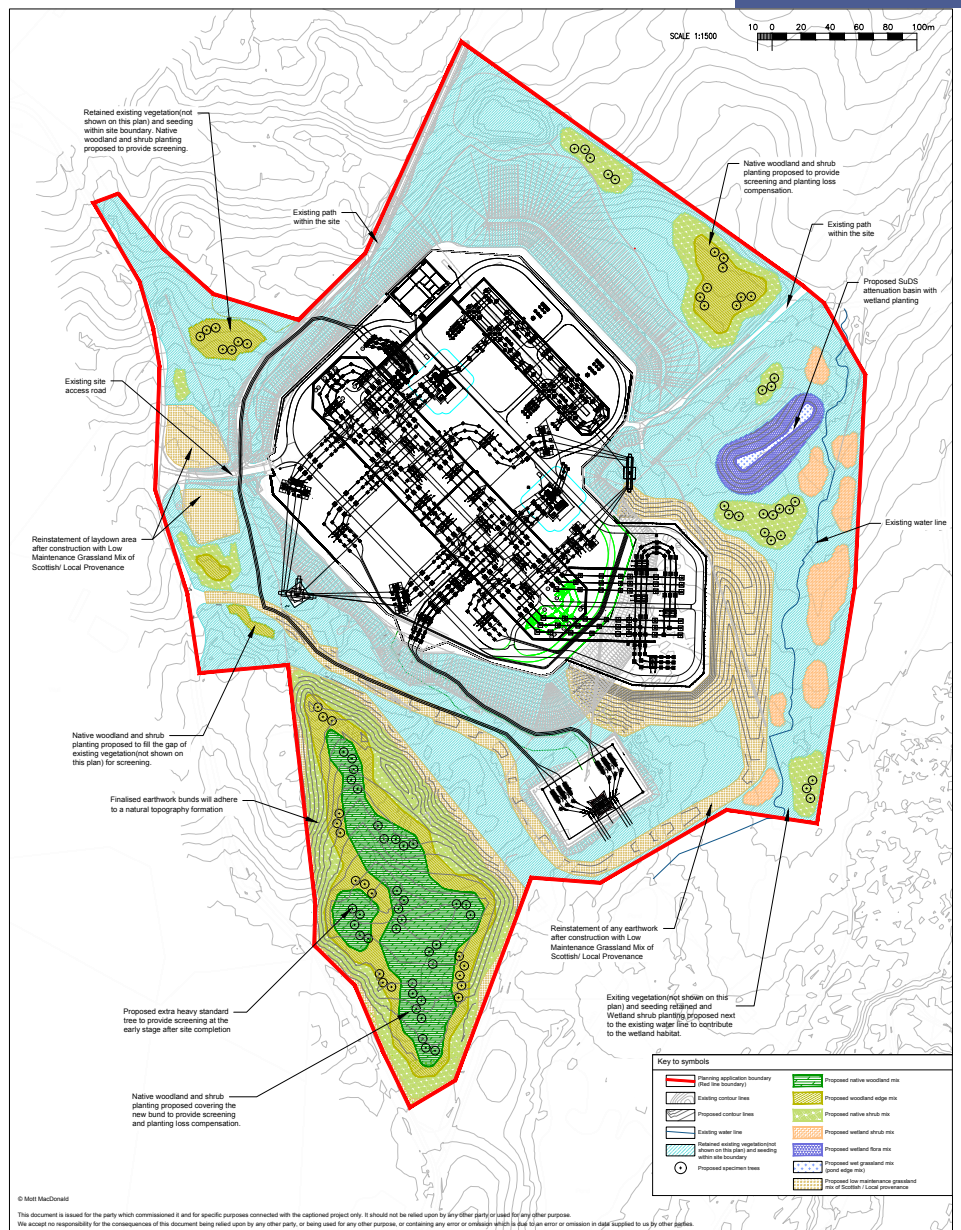
There are numerous field drains and burns in the area associated with historic land improvement and natural process. There are also mapped areas of class 2 peat within the local area. Class 2 peat is described as areas dominated by peat soil and peatland habitats. The design has sought to avoid these areas of peat. There are known Private Water Supplies (PWS) within the area under consideration. Further assessment including a PWS risk assessment will be included in the planning application to confirm any required mitigation to protect PWS and the water environment.

Knocknagael substation extension

The figure below shows the preferred option currently in design development for the extension of the Knocknagael substation to allow for the additional bay required to accommodate the consented Loch na Cathrach Pump Storage Scheme.

The Loch na Cathrach Pump Storage scheme connection requirement has changed from a firm (resilient) connection to a non-firm connection. This now means that only one circuit is required to connect to the bus section at Knocknagael. As a result there is now a requirement to extend out one side of the existing busbar.

To achieve these electrical extension works, some cut and fill earth activities will be necessary to extend out to the existing platform to enable the installation of the new electrical equipment to be constructed upon. Works to the existing drainage system will be required to ensure the larger platform area is adequately drained. Temporary access tracks and lay down areas will be identified and developed to facilitate construction works within the site compound, whilst the permanent access to the substation will be reviewed and potentially relocated to accommodate the extended site.



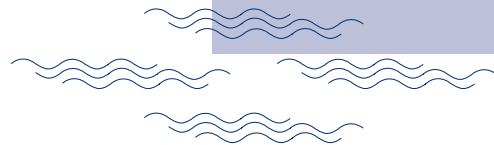
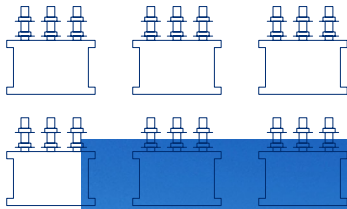
Preferred substation extension option

In developing the substation extension the landscape and visual aspect of the proposal will be contained within the existing setting of electrical infrastructure and will therefore minimise the potential effects. A landscape and visual assessment will be carried out to understand how the proposed development will be viewed within the surrounding area, to identify any significant effects and propose recommendations to mitigate these effects. The assessment will be included in the planning application.

The construction of the substation extension will require vehicles to deliver plant, machinery and workers to the site. Access to the site would be off the existing public road to the West of the substation. The local road network

was used to construct the existing Knocknagael substation and it is considered the same roads could be used to construct the extension. An appropriate construction traffic management plan would be developed to ensure road safety for all other road users during the construction works for suitable management of all vehicle movements.

Environmental survey has not identified any potential significant constraints to the extension at Knocknagael substation. Environmental survey and assessment will be reported in the planning application to ensure appropriate environmental mitigation recommendations are identified in advance of construction works.



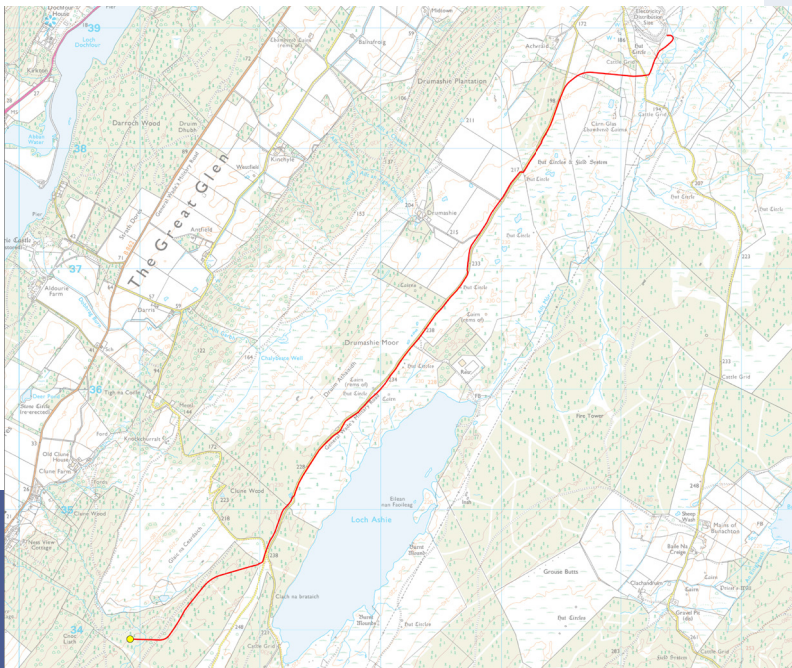
Knocknagael substation to Loch na Cathrach Storage switching station UGC

The map below shows the preferred alignment identified for the 275kV underground cable connection from the new Loch na Cathrach Pumped Storage Scheme to the existing Knocknagael Substation. The alignment is considered to be the optimum solution based on a balance of environmental, technical and cost factors, whilst also minimising disruption to the general public.

Amendments to our proposed alignment to further minimise the impact on veteran trees identified during our forestry surveys have been implemented in the design below. In addition, following the change from a double to a single circuit connection there is no longer the requirement for the cable to diverge on its approach to Knocknagael Substation with only one cable connecting in to the new bay extension.

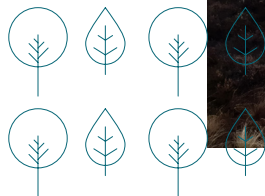
The preferred alignment avoids forestry as far as practicable hence limiting the extent of felling, whilst minimising potential effects on private water supplies and properties as well as avoiding areas of class 1 and 2 peat. It also provides excellent accessibility for construction works, and maintenance thereafter. The preferred alignment would also limit interaction with local archaeology assets and minimise effects on habitats of higher sensitivity including blanket bog.

Environmental survey and assessment for the UGC works will be reported in a Voluntary Environmental Appraisal to ensure appropriate environmental mitigation recommendations are identified in advance of construction works.



Preferred cable alignment

The alignment is currently considered to be the environmentally preferred alignment due to the potential to minimise effects on cultural heritage and habitats and reduce disturbance to protected species. The environmental survey and assessment will be reported in a Voluntary Environmental Appraisal to ensure appropriate environmental mitigation recommendations are identified in advance of construction works.



Loch na Cathrach Feedback

Following submission of the Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) in April 2024, the first of two pre-application consultation events were held at Green Drive Hall on 17 April 2024, with a total of 48 attendees.

During the feedback period, which closed on 15 May, feedback in the form of two emails was received for this project.

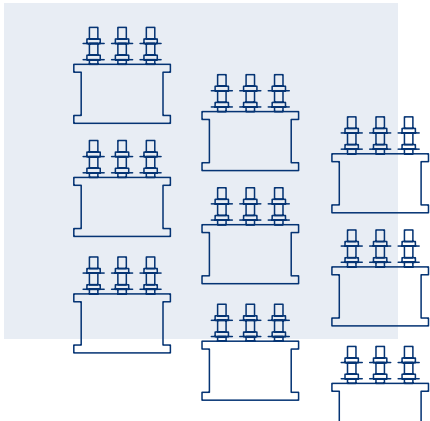
This feedback and verbal feedback received at the event, is summarised and responded to within the following table.

We have included event feedback through the PAN and pre-application process, as well as design feedback, within the following pages via themes. They are:

Theme	Feedback	Response
Environmental	<p>Information on well-established and occupied kestrel nest boxes has been provided. Further information can be provided if requested by SSEN Transmission.</p> <p>I am in the area between Essich and Loch Ness most days and monitor all the nesting raptors I find in that area including kestrels, tawny owls, red kites, buzzards and ospreys. If this project is to be completed with minimal disturbance to nesting birds then it is considered it would be advantageous for contact to be maintained with SSEN Transmission.</p>	<p>We appreciate and are grateful for the feedback in this respect and have factored the location and needs of the nest boxes into our environmental assessment.</p> <p>An information request for relevant information has been made by our environmental consultant with the Scottish Raptor Study Group as part of the ongoing environmental assessment.</p> <p>The Voluntary Environmental Appraisal will set out any required mitigation and commitments to ensure disturbance to raptors is minimised.</p> <p>The Voluntary Environmental Appraisal will be submitted as part of the planning application and, apart from any confidential information, will be publicly available to review.</p>



Theme	Response
<p>Construction</p> <p>Concerns around construction traffic coming through Strathnairn area.</p>	<p>We are aware of the concerns of excessive construction traffic in the Strathnairn area caused by the works for this project, the Loch na Cathrach PSH scheme itself and other projects in the area. Whilst we are yet to confirm our construction traffic routes we are liaising with other projects in the area to minimise impacts where possible and envisage that the majority of construction traffic for the works at Knocknagael Substation will avoid Strathnairn and instead utilise the A8082 and Essich Road. Our plans for construction traffic access will be confirmed as the project progresses and are keen to hear suggestions on how to minimise impact from the local community.</p>
<p>Community Benefit</p> <p>Will there be community benefit to the local people, specifically those areas directly impacted by the project.</p>	<p>We would like to thank residents for providing their feedback suggesting community benefits they would like to see implemented within the local area. We will work with the community to further explore the suggestions being made and will seek to review suggestions and better understand local needs, identifying initiatives that could be developed during construction.</p>
<p>Biodiversity Net Gain benefit</p> <p>Is there an opportunity for SSEN Transmission to support a local biodiversity scheme.</p>	<p>Details of the scheme were noted at the public event in April 2024.</p> <p>Biodiversity net gain assessment is still ongoing and to be reported. Once this is complete an update to the group will be provided to update on potential opportunities.</p> <p>The BNG assessment and outcome will be reported in the planning application and will be publicly available to review.</p>
<p>Environmental</p> <p>Local ecology and habitats predominantly along the proposed underground cable alignment are of local interest. Are SSEN Transmission aware of these and what will be done to protect them.</p>	<p>We have undertaken a suite of environmental surveys at the substation location and along the proposed underground cable alignment. This includes ecology, ornithology and habitat surveys.</p> <p>The survey results will inform the Voluntary Environmental Appraisal which is currently being written.</p> <p>The Voluntary Environmental Appraisal will set out any required mitigation and commitments to ensure disturbance to ecology, ornithology and habitats is minimised.</p> <p>The Voluntary Environmental Appraisal will be submitted as part of the planning application and, apart from any confidential information, will be publicly available to view.</p>



Have your say

We value community and stakeholder feedback. Without this, we would be unable to progress projects and reach a balanced proposal.

Feedback

We intend to submit our planning application in Autumn 2024. Our formal feedback period will close on **12 July 2024**, however we will welcome final comments from members of the public, statutory consultees and other key stakeholders regarding our proposals until we submit our planning application.

How to provide feedback

Submit your comments and feedback by emailing or writing to your Community Liaison Manager.

Our Community Liaison team

Each project has a dedicated Community Liaison Manager who works closely with community members to make sure they are well informed of our proposals and that their views, concerns, questions or suggestions are put to our project teams.

Throughout the life of our projects, you will hear from us regularly. We aim to establish strong working relationships by being accessible to key local stakeholders such as community councils, residents' associations and development trusts, and regularly engage with interested individuals.

What we're seeking views on

During our last public consultation event in April, we wanted to know your thoughts on our project plans, where you thought we could make improvements, and any changes and refinements we'd made.


At this event we have provided responses to the feedback we received and have identified changes and refinements to the project. We are now asking for any final comments or feedback ahead of submitting planning applications for the Coachford 400kV substation project.

We'll be actively looking to mitigate the impacts of the site as much as possible over the coming months, but it would be helpful to understand what you believe we should be doing to help minimise these impacts and if there are any opportunities to deliver a local community benefit you would like us to consider.

Community Liaison Manager

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To support everyone online, we provide accessibility and language options on our website through 'Recite Me'.

The accessibility and language support options provided by 'Recite Me' include text-to-speech functionality, fully customisable styling features, reading aids, and a translation tool with over 100 languages, including 35 text-to-speech.

Please select "Accessibility" on our website to try out our inclusive toolbar."

Additional information:



The best way to keep up to date is to sign up to project updates via the project webpage:

ssen-transmission.co.uk/lochnacathrach

You can also follow us on social media:

 @sentransmission  @SSETransmission

