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18 November 2024

Our ref: LT384  
Your ref: ECU00005168

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Application for consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to upgrade approximately 37 kilometres (km) of an existing 275 kilovolts (kV) overhead line (OHL), between Tower 182 (west of Tealing Substation) and the licence boundary with Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) (Westfield / Glenrothes) (mid span Towers 66 and 65), to enable operation at 400 kV ('the Proposed Development').**

This application for the Tealing to Westfield Overhead Line 400kV Upgrade is being submitted by Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (the Applicant) who, operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), own, operate and develop the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands. It holds a licence under the Electricity Act 1989 to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission.

### **The Proposal**

The application seeks consent under Section 37 of the 1989 Act to upgrade approximately 37 km of overhead OHL between Tower 182 (west of Tealing Substation) and the licence boundary with SPEN (Westfield / Glenrothes) (mid span Towers 66 and 65), to enable operation at 400 kV ('the Proposed Development').

The Proposed Development would include the following elements, for which Section 37 consent and deemed planning consent under Section 57 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended, is sought:

- Replacement of conductors, insulators and fittings on the existing steel lattice towers;
- Where required, tower condition works, including steelwork and tower leg foundation work to strengthen the existing steel lattice towers;
- Replacement of existing earthwire with Optical Ground Wire (OPGW);
- Subject to further engineering and design checks, some modifications to the existing towers may be required, such as the inverting of cross arms to improve clearances, and changes to the insulator set configurations; and,
- Subject to further engineering and design checks, the following tower works may be required:

#### TRANSMISSION

- to mitigate a 132 kV clearance constraint, Towers 155 and 156 may need to be extended in height using a 2 m long body extension, however inverting tower cross arms and/or the use of suspended tension sets may suffice; and
- due to constraints associated with the conductor type, coupled with an inability to utilise mid-span joints, it may be the case that either Tower 129 or 132 (not both) may need to be replaced. To facilitate these works, a temporary diversion tower would also be required. The maximum dimensions of these towers are:
  - Tower 129 (existing height 45.49 m): The height of the new tower: 45.5 m; and the temporary diversion tower 45.5 m; or
  - Tower 132 (existing height 47.02 m): The height of the new tower: 51.15 m; and the temporary diversion tower 51.3 m.

The Applicant is also seeking deemed planning permission under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for certain elements of the project, or ancillary works required to facilitate its construction and operation. These ancillary works will include:

- Vegetation clearance;
- Access track construction and access track upgrades;
- Temporary site compounds, laydown areas and crane pads;
- Equipotential zones (EPZs) and temporary measures to protect road, rail and water crossings; and
- The increase in operating voltage of the OHL requires a wider wayleave corridor, therefore some tree felling will be required where there are infringements to this corridor.

A full project description is available within Volume 2, Chapter 3 of the EIA Report.

#### **Land Rights**

At the time of writing, 79 wayleaves / land agreements are required, with 5 necessary wayleaves being prepared. Nine wayleaves are outstanding.

#### **Application Details**

The following documents have been submitted in support of this application:

- Planning Statement.
- Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report.
- Socio Economic Assessment.
- Electric and Magnetic (EMF) Field Study.
- Detailed Maps of the Proposed Development including the site location, proposed works, access tracks and further detailed maps on specific aspects of the EIA report.
- EIA Report with associated Technical Appendices and Figures.
- Non-Technical Summary.
- A separate Schedule of Mitigation
- Consultee List.

#### **Consultation**

A Consultee List has been submitted with this application. This identifies statutory and non-statutory consultees that SSEN has identified, to be contacted by the ECU to request a formal representation. The content of this list has already been agreed with the ECU.

#### **Section 37 Press Notice**

A draft notice has been issued to the ECU Case Officer for agreement prior to printing. The papers listed below would be used to publish the Section 37 Notice for the Proposed Development.

- Edinburgh Gazette.

- Perthshire Advertiser.
- Dundee Courier.
- Fife Courier.

The above addresses the minimum requirement to publish the advert in one or more newspapers circulating in the locality of The Proposed Development (for two consecutive weeks) and in the Edinburgh Gazette (for one week).

The date of publication of the notices will be agreed in advance with the ECU.

**Confidential Information**

The Applicant will submit all confidential information directly to the ECU Case Officer via email and has not uploaded any confidential information to the online portal. We will also contact NatureScot, RSPB, Angus Council, Perth and Kinross Council and Fife Council regarding how they wish to receive the confidential information.

**Payment**

An application fee of £66,600 has been paid to the ECU.

**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

**Albert Muckley**

**Consents & Environment Manager**  
**Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission**