

# 13 What Happens Next?

SPEN places great importance on the effect its work may have on the environment and local communities and is keen to hear the views of local people to help develop the project in the best way.

Informed by the consultation responses, SPEN will confirm the proposed route for the new OHL.

Reflecting the proposed route, SPEN intend to submit a Screening Opinion request to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit to confirm whether or not the proposed development requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The proposed route will then be subject to a detailed design process taking into account findings of baseline environmental surveys, landowner consultation and further technical review by SPEN culminating in an overhead line alignment, including individual wood pole locations and other supporting infrastructure.

This alignment, including all ancillary temporary development e.g. temporary access tracks, working areas etc will be included in the application for Section 37 consent and deemed planning permission which we anticipate being submitted in early 2025. The Section 37 application will be submitted to the Scottish Ministers via the Energy Consents Unit. Dumfries and Galloway Council will be notified as a statutory consultee and asked to comment on the application prior to submission.

SPEN will consult fully with affected landowners and occupiers on all aspects of the new OHL and will give them an opportunity to comment on proposals as they progress. A further round of public consultation will be undertaken by SPEN following the EIA Screening process and before the submission of the application for Section 37 consent.

Thank you for taking the time to visit this public exhibition.



## **Harestanes West Wind Farm 132kV Overhead Line Grid Connection**

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