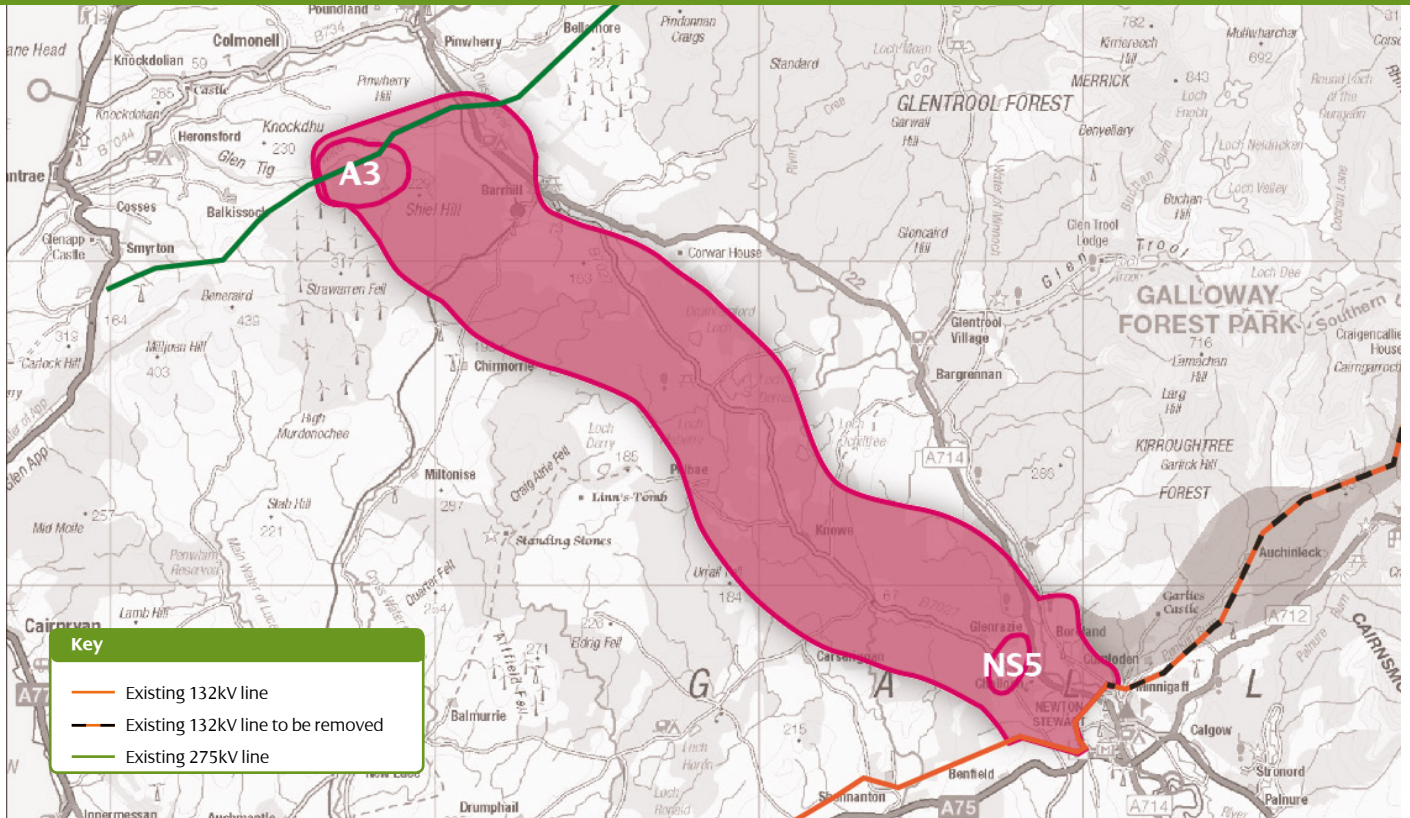


Dumfries and Galloway Strategic Reinforcement Project



Zone 1: Auchencross to Newton Stewart

Our preferred corridor

The corridor starts at our preferred siting area for a new substation at Auchencross (site A3), in the northern part of Arecleoch Forest. It heads south east, passing south of Barrhill, before roughly following the route of the B7027 to end at our preferred siting area for a new substation near Newton Stewart (site NS5). Auchencross is where a subsea cable comes ashore allowing electricity to flow between Scotland and Northern Ireland.

This section will involve a new high voltage overhead line of up to 275kV supported on steel towers.

Our preferred corridor in this area avoids the RSPB reserve and the archaeologically sensitive area. It also avoids the Ayrshire Scenic Area and Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area and minimises the impact on visual amenity including the Galloway Forest Park, although there will be some loss of plantation woodland.

Substation siting areas in this zone

Our preferred substation siting area is A3 because it is outside the scenic area and away from sensitive ecological areas and a landscaped garden. It also means we can connect into the existing 275kV line with less new infrastructure than the alternatives.

Substation siting area NS5 is preferred because it is further from Newton Stewart and means we don't need to create a new connection into the town itself. It also avoids the regional scenic area and is shorter than the other options.

You can see this information in more detail, as well as the other corridors and siting areas we considered in this area, in our [Routeing and Consultation document](#), elsewhere on this website.