Changing the VIEW & VISTA

Initiatives to assess and reduce the visual impact of existing electricity transmission infrastructure in Scotland's National Parks & National Scenic Areas.

Introduction

The VIEW and VISTA initiatives are seeking to access a share of a £500 million fund available to UK transmission operators, and administered by the electricity industry regulator OFGEM, which is intended to mitigate or positively enhance the visual impact of pre-existing transmission infrastructure within the UK's most protected and highly valued landscapes.

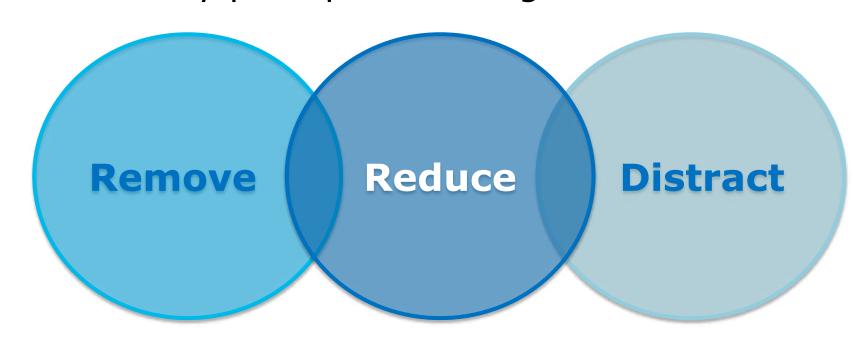


Core aims of VIEW & VISTA

- To identify visual and landscape impacts arising from existing transmission infrastructure in designated areas (National Parks and NSAs).
- Develop projects that achieve the maximum level of visual/ landscape enhancement or mitigation of impacts.
- Utilise a partnership approach to develop projects with the greatest benefits.
- Use innovative thinking to deliver projects that have also considered wider benefits (environmental, social, economic) beyond visual impact mitigation.

What will mitigation look like or consist of?

Three key principles of mitigation:



Feasibility of mitigation

- High level internal technical review
- High level indicative costing
- Rating effectiveness of mitigation

Hard engineering options

- Undergrounding of overhead transmission lines.
- Realignment of transmission lines.
- Substitution with different pylon types (e.g. lower height designs).

Soft landscape options

- Tree planting or other forms of screening where it might be feasible to mitigate impacts on visual receptors at specific viewpoints/routes.
- Enhancements to the wider landscape that are in line with other objectives and where such measures might feasibly mitigate landscape and visual impacts.

New installation options

 Introduction of a new installation/intervention to 'focus' or 'distract' from the impacts.

Identification of SPEN/SHE Transmission Network Infrastructure in Scottish National Parks and National Scenic Areas (NSAs) **SPEN & SHE Transmission Screening of Transmission Network Future Transmission** Infrastructure for further consideration **Network Works Review Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** (LVIA) of existing transmission Stakeholder Partnership infrastructure **Group (SPG) Input Group workshop May 2015** Follow up workshops Identification of most 'Important' **Landscape** and **Visual Impacts Identification of potential mitigation SPEN & SHE Transmission** proposals to address Impacts High Level Technical Review (Hard Engineering and/or Landscape **Enhancement)** Review of each line section and potential mitigation proposal with consideration of the following: Stakeholder **Partnership** Indicative Capital Cost (£££) **Group (SPG)** Effectiveness of Mitigation (***) Timescale for delivery Stakeholder Associated positive & negative Issues Workshop impacts (cultural heritage, ecological, **December 2015** access, recreation etc.) Selection of line sections and mitigation **Formation of Project Steering Group(s) Expansion of Stakeholder** Partnership Group Identification of local **Allocation of Projects to Stakeholders for** progression

Indicative timeline

How can you get involved?

Undertake Technical, Environmental and Economic Feasibility Studies

Development of Projects in detail with

Stakeholders

SP Energy Networks (SPEN) Visual Impact of Existing Wirescape (VIEW) Project



Project Consultation Workshops

VIEW

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/view_project.asp Email: view@spenergynetworks.co.uk

Submission of Projects to OFGEM – April 2016 Onwards

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Visual Impact of Scottish Transmission Assets (VISTA)



VISTA

www.ssepd.co.uk/vistaconsultation/ Email: vista@sse.com





Within the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Scottish **Power Energy Networks (SPEN) and Scottish Hydro Electric** Transmission (SHE Transmission) are working collaboratively to ensure their approaches are aligned and complimentary.

