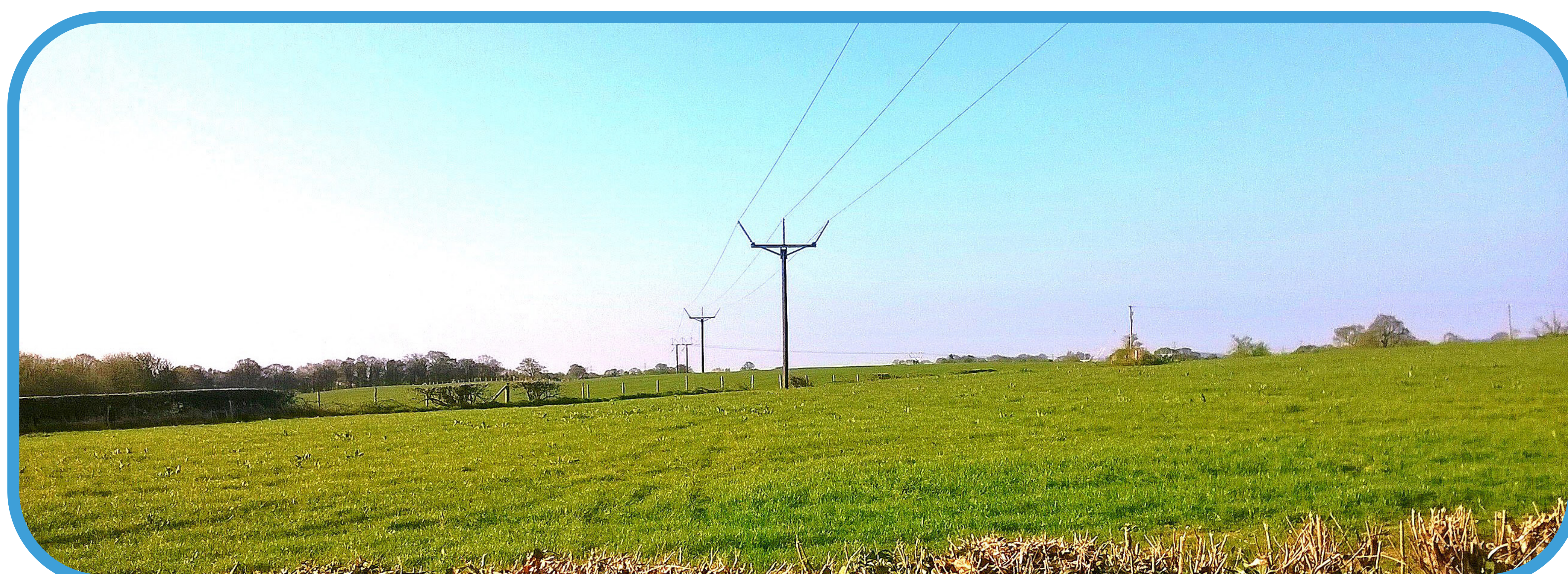


Thank you for taking the time to visit this consultation event.

The developer of the proposed Artfield Forest Wind Farm has asked SP Transmission to connect the wind farm to the national electricity network. As a licensed electricity operator, SP Transmission is legally required to provide this connection.

This exhibition covers:

- Information about SP Transmission and the work we do to help meet the Government's renewable energy and net zero targets.
- The proposed development, why it is needed and the work we are doing to avoid and minimise potential environmental impacts.
- What we will do with any feedback we receive and our next steps in the development of these proposals.
- How to respond to this consultation and by when.



About SP Transmission Plc

SP Transmission plc is a wholly owned subsidiary of SP Energy Networks and is responsible for the transmission of electricity in Central and Southern Scotland, carrying power over long distances and delivering it to over two million homes and businesses.

We do this through a network of 4,500 kilometres of overhead lines and over 600 kilometres of underground cables, which we own and maintain.

A Renewable Future

The Scottish Government is aiming for net zero by 2045, balancing the greenhouse gases it produces with those removed naturally or through technological means.

By 2030, the UK Government wants 20GW of new renewable electricity, which will be enough to meet around half of Scotland's current energy demand. To reach this, we must expand the electricity network connecting Scotland's renewable resources to the rest of the UK.

The systems operated and maintained by SP Energy Networks are vital to achieving this target. We connect renewable generation and enable the bulk transfer of clean energy from Scotland into England and Wales.

For more information on SP Energy Networks please visit our website at

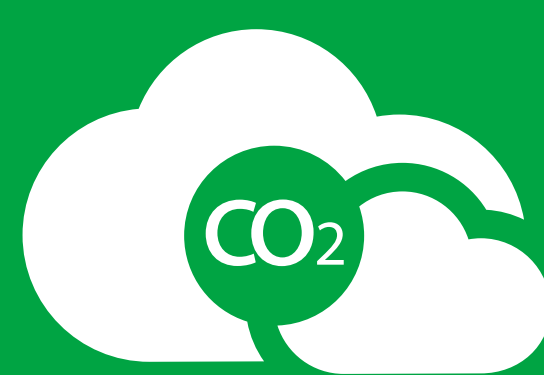


www.spenergynetworks.co.uk

For more information on the project please scan the QR code



Supporting Net Zero Communities



Scotland aims to reach net zero across all greenhouse gases by 2045, with England and Wales targeting 2050.

Net zero means balancing the greenhouse gases we produce with those removed from the atmosphere. We reach net zero when what we emit is no more than what is taken away.

Achieving net zero is critical - it's a key step in tackling climate change and protecting our environment, economy, and society.

Scotland's Role



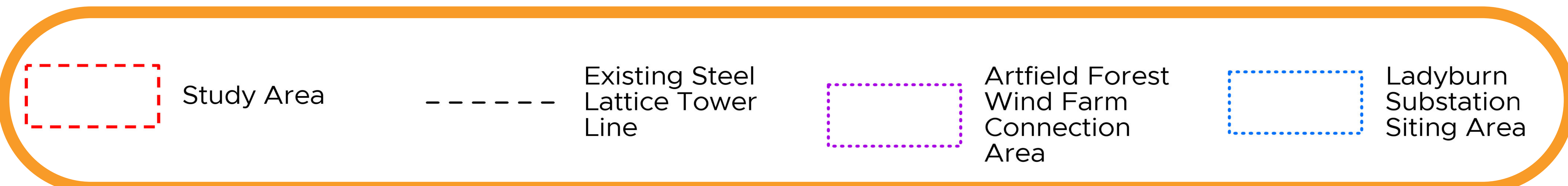
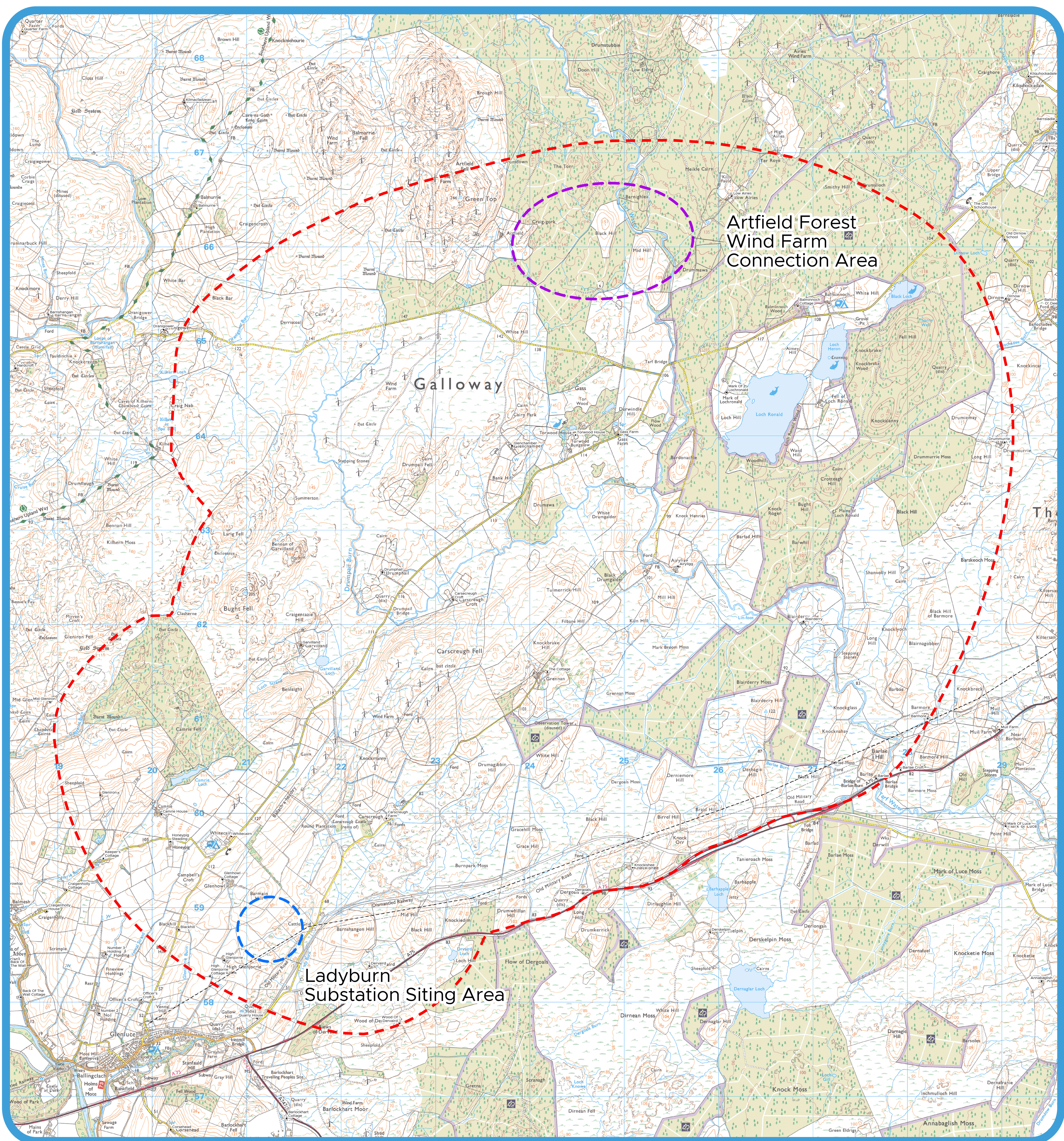
Scotland is emerging as a global leader on net zero. Political ambition, public support, and business innovation are coming together to drive a greener economy and environment.

By demonstrating a swift and fair transition to a cleaner, greener future, Scotland sets an example that inspires global collaboration - a collective response to the climate emergency that cannot fail.

What is Proposed

We are planning a new overhead line supported by wood pole structures.

The new overhead line will be approximately 9k in length running from the proposed Artfield Forest Wind Farm substation near Artfield Fell to the proposed Ladyburn Substation near Glenluce. The new line will mainly use single ‘Trident’ wood pole support structures, typically 11–16m high. Heights may be greater where needed to cross railways, roads or challenging terrain. The distance between the poles will usually be 80-100m.



What will the new infrastructure look like?



Trident Wood Pole Structures

The new overhead line will mainly use single ‘Trident’ wood pole structures, typically 11–16m high. Heights may be greater where needed to cross railways, roads or challenging terrain. The distance between the poles will usually be 80-100m. Some double Trident wood pole structures (‘H-poles’) will be used - for example, where there is a change in direction.

Advantages of using Wood Poles rather than Towers

Flexible Routeing: Wood poles are slim and simple in design, making it easier to route the line around obstacles such as buildings, trees, or uneven terrain.

Low Visual Impact: Their smaller size and natural shape allow them to blend into the landscape.

Easy Screening: Vegetation or landscaping can easily screen wood poles, reducing their visual impact and helping the line sit more naturally within its surroundings.

Identifying Potential Route Options

We have been working to identify potential route options for the new overhead line between the proposed Artfield Forest Wind Farm Substation and the proposed Ladyburn Collector Substation.

When identifying and comparing these route options, we have carefully considered the environment, local communities, and the landscape to ensure projects are practical, cost-effective, and cause as little disruption as possible to both people and the environment.

The route options were assessed on the following criteria to determine their potential suitability.

Technical feasibility

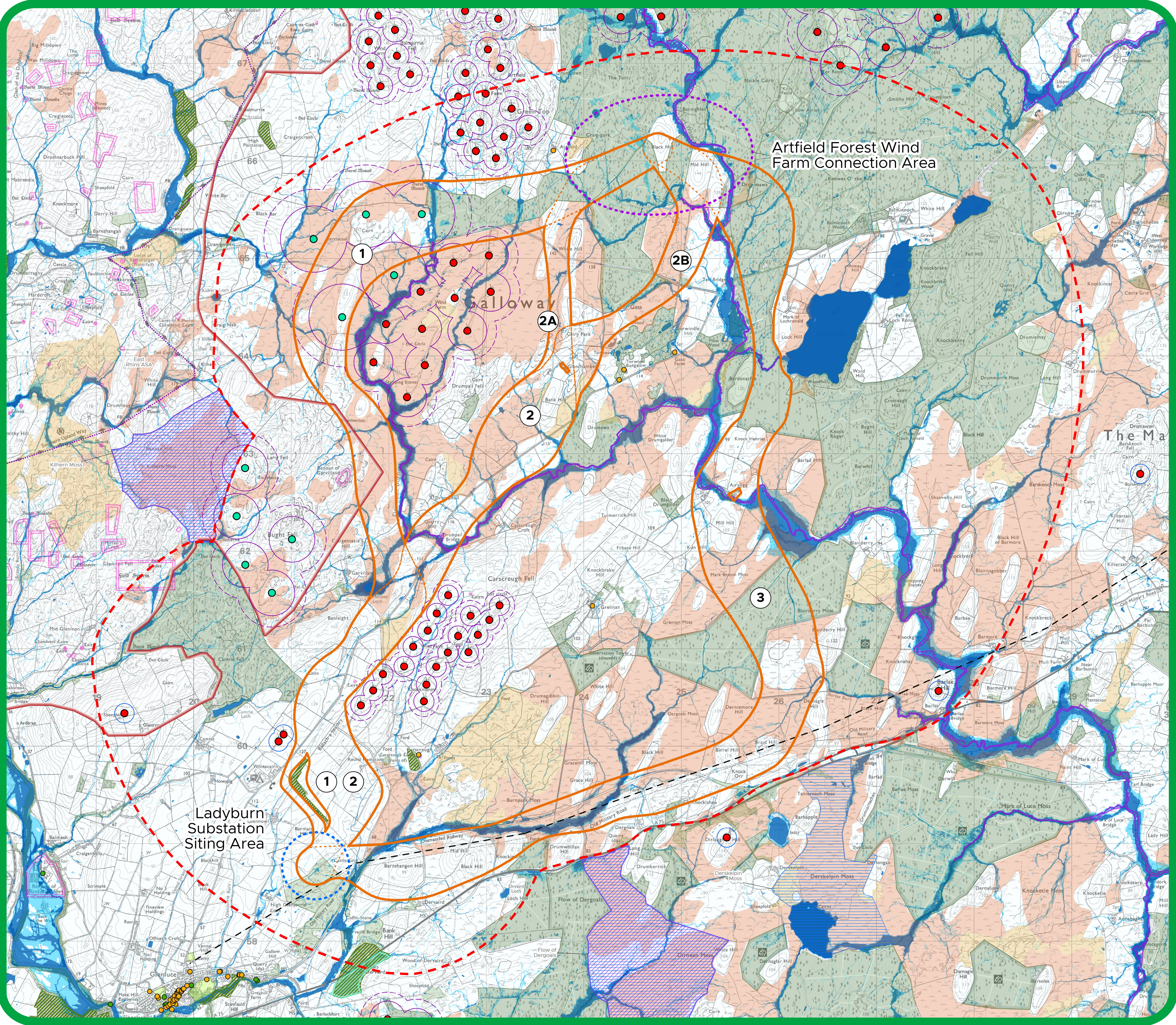
This considers whether we can safely build, operate, and maintain an overhead line along the proposed route. Factors include existing electricity infrastructure, land shape, slopes, pole heights, ground conditions, and site accessibility.

Economic viability

We focused on the most direct routes while avoiding areas where technical challenges, existing and proposed wind farms or land use costs would make the project significantly more expensive.

Environmental effects

- Landscape and views
- Biodiversity
- Cultural heritage
- Forestry and woodland
- Flood risk and ground conditions
- Land uses, including recreation



Study Area

Existing Steel Lattice Tower Line

Artfield Forest Wind Farm Connection Area

Ladyburn Substation Siting Area

Route Options

Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA)

OS Open GreenSpace Site

Southern Upland Way

Listed Building

- Category A
- Category B
- Category C

Scheduled Monument

National Forest Inventory Woodland

Local Nature Conservation Site

Ancient Woodland (AWI)

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

Special Landscape Area (SLA)

Priority Peatland Habitat - Category 1

Priority Peatland Habitat - Category 2

Flooding Risk - High Likelihood

Flooding Risk - Medium Likelihood

Installed or Approved Wind Turbine

Wind Turbine at Planning Application Stage

2x Turbine Rotor Diameter Buffer Area

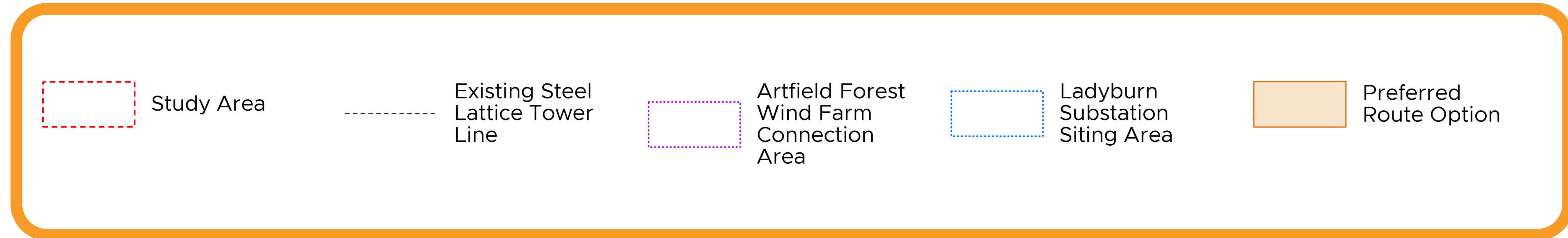
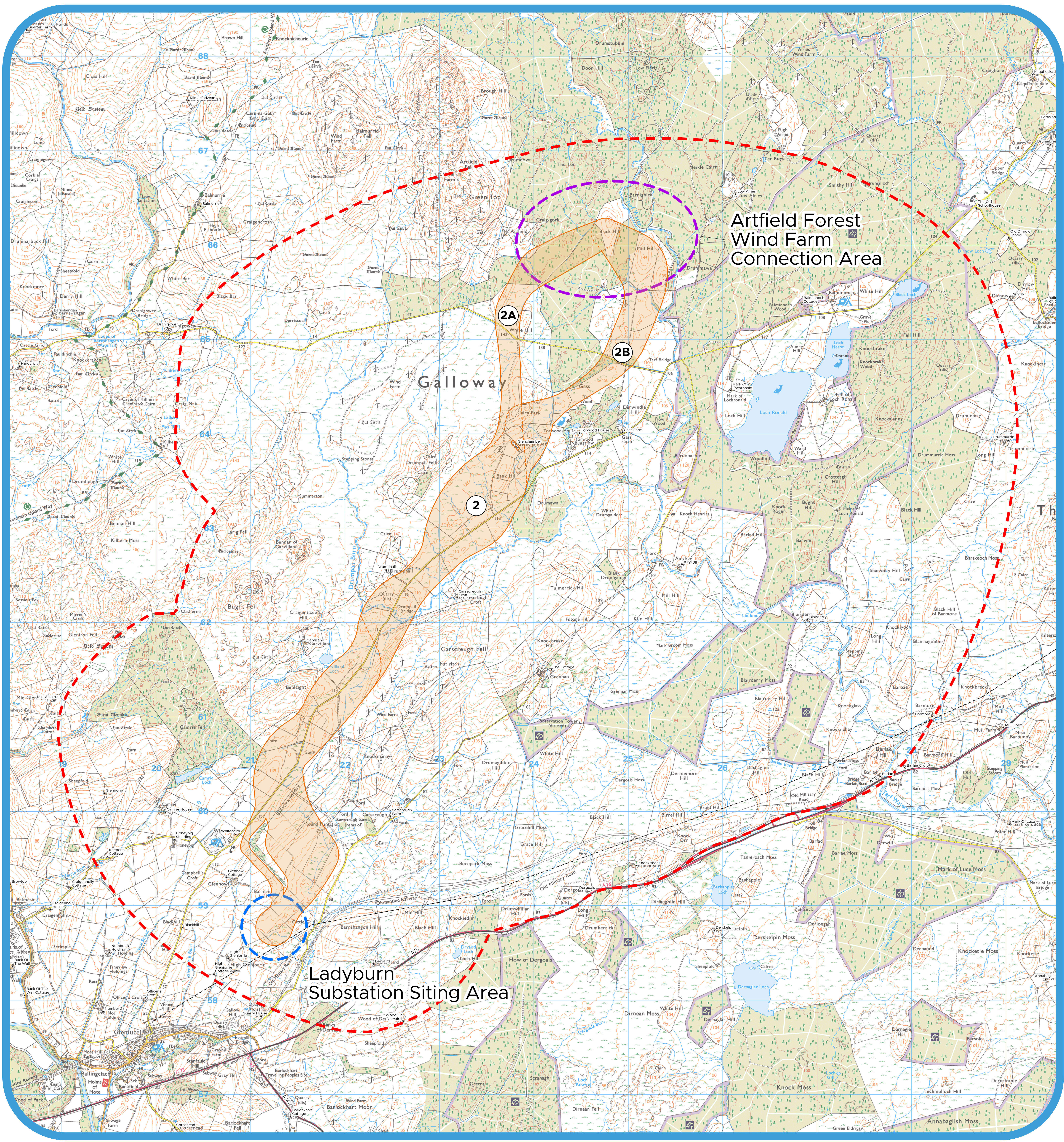
3x Turbine Rotor Diameter Buffer Area

Minimum 100m Buffer Area



Selecting a Preferred Route

In choosing a preferred route, we aimed to avoid areas of the highest environmental value and settlement, while also making the best use of the existing landscape, including hills and woodland, to help screen the overhead line.



Consultation and the Consenting Process

The consultation process gives everyone with an interest in the project access to clear, up-to-date information and the chance to provide feedback during the pre-application stage. Key issues raised will be recorded and shared with decision makers to guide the planning process.

SPT has identified stakeholders and interested parties ahead of this Stage 1 Consultation and remains committed to ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, both during and outside formal consultation periods.

We need consent from Scottish Ministers under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to install and maintain the new overhead line.

Consultation is key to developing the best route for the new overhead line. We will consider feedback from the local community, statutory consultees, and technical bodies such as Dumfries and Galloway Council, SEPA, and NatureScot.

Comments from this consultation and findings from the environmental assessment process will be used to help shape the final route.

A second consultation is planned in 2026. It will show how we have used your feedback and gather views on our final proposals before submitting the Section 37 application.

October / November 2025

Stage 1 Consultation on preferred route option



Q3 2026

Environmental assessment work commences



Q1 2026

Identify preferred alignment



Q2 2026

Stage 2 Consultation on the preferred alignment



Q4 2027

Submission of the Section 37 application to secure consent for the proposed development



Q2 2029

Anticipated start of construction



Q2 2030

Commissioning of the new overhead line



How to give feedback

Please give us your feedback on our preferred route option. We will consider all comments we receive in response to this consultation as we develop our final proposed alignment for the new overhead line and undertake the environmental assessment.

Comments at this stage are informal and help SP Transmission plc decide if changes to the route are needed. A formal opportunity to comment to the Energy Consents Unit will follow once the application is submitted. Providing feedback now does not affect your right to comment on the final application.

To give feedback:



By email to
ArtfieldForest@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Write to:
**The Project Manager, Artfield
Forest Connection Project
Land and Planning, SP Energy
Networks,
55 Fullarton Drive, Cambuslang,
G32 8FA**



Complete the online feedback form.

This proposed Artfield Forest Connection Project consultation runs from 28th October 2025 to 25th November 2025

The proposed Ladyburn Substation will be the subject of a separate planning application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended), submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council

We plan to consult on the substation proposals in 2026. Further details will be shared closer to the consultation period



If you would like a hard copy of any consultation materials, please contact us. Materials can also be provided in large print on request.

Any information collected through your feedback will only be used to understand views on the Artfield Forest Connection Project. It will not be used for any other purpose. Feedback will be collated and analysed to inform consultation reporting.

We do not and will not sell personal information.