



Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade

**Proposed Network Upgrade between
Denny and Wishaw.**

**Summary of Feedback from First Round
of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)
January – April 2025.**

September 2025

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Executive summary

This report summarises the first round of pre-application consultation carried out by SP Energy Networks (SPEN) for the proposed new Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade project. The scheme involves:

- Construction of a new double circuit 275kV / 400kV overhead line, running north-south from Bonnybridge 275kV substation to a point near Glenmavis in North Lanarkshire, where it will connect to the existing 275kV overhead line (known as XX Route) that runs between the Easterhouse and Newarthill 275kV substations;
- A 'spur' from the new overhead line to Cumbernauld substation (approximately 750m), and removal of the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;
- Extending existing substations at Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse to install additional electrical equipment and carry out associated landscaping, drainage, access and fencing works where required;
- Installing new transformers at Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;
- Replacing the conductors (wires) and associated equipment on existing overhead lines to operate them at 400kV, as follows:
 - Newarthill to Wishaw (XR route) – 16km
 - Newarthill to Easterhouse (XX route) – 15.4km
 - Denny North to Bonnybridge (ZG route) – 4km
- Alterations to the overhead lines where they enter the substations (to connect them to the new equipment)
- Moving the existing XX overhead line further away from residential properties at Grantown Gardens, Glenmavis, through a new 'tee-in' arrangement to the proposed new overhead line
- Undergrounding of two sections of the existing 132kV overhead line (AA route) between Bonnybridge and Bathgate, where it is crossed by the proposed new overhead line

SPEN carried out pre-application consultation with local residents and stakeholders from Monday 27 January 2025 until Thursday 17 April 2025, which included six drop-in events at:

- Newarthill Community Facility on Wednesday 29 January from 2pm to 7pm
- Muirfield Community Centre on Thursday 30 January from 4pm to 8pm
- Pather Community Centre on Friday 31 January from 2pm to 7pm
- Gartcosh Social Club on Tuesday 04 February from 2pm to 7pm
- Bonnybridge Community Education Centre on Wednesday 05 February from 3:15pm to 7pm
- Glenmavis Community Facility on Thursday 06 February from 2pm to 7pm

An additional consultation event was held at the Gartcosh Social Club to consult on the plans for the Easterhouse Substation on the 27 March 2025 from 2pm to 7pm.

The comments received will help to shape the detailed design of the project. Revised designs will be shared with the public during a second round of pre-application consultation.

SP Energy Networks will submit consent applications to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989, and will carry out a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposals to ensure that potential effects of the development on the environment are considered in detail, including mitigation where required.

This report will provide:

- An overview of the project and the consultation process
- A summary of the feedback received during the consultation period
- The methodology used to analyse the feedback received
- Next steps in the process

1. Introduction

1.1 The need for the Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade

The Network Options Assessment (NOA) is carried out every year by National Grid as the Energy Systems Operator (ESO) to determine what, if any, additional capacity will be required and economically justified to ensure current and future energy generation can flow from where it is produced to where it is needed.

Much of the electricity transmission network in Scotland is between 50 and 100 years old. It has grown and evolved to meet industrial needs and serve the expanding population, but the network in southern and central Scotland will soon be at full capacity and unable to accommodate all the clean, green renewable energy required in the future.

The assessment identified that the construction of new overhead lines from Bonnybridge, to Glenmavis, replacement of existing infrastructure, expansion of Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse substations, and associated infrastructure is required.

This project will enhance the transmission infrastructure in the central belt of Scotland and is critical in facilitating the economic integration of renewable generation and helping Scotland and the UK reach legislated net zero targets.

1.2 The role of SP Energy Networks (SPEN)

SP Energy Networks is part of the ScottishPower Group. It is responsible for the transmission and distribution of electricity in central and southern Scotland, and, through SP Manweb, the distribution network in North Wales and part of North West England. SPEN's role is to maintain, operate and invest in our network to secure a safe, reliable, and economic service for current and future consumers.

Its transmission networks are the backbone of the electricity system in its area, carrying large amounts of electricity at high voltages across long distances. The distribution networks are local networks, which take electricity from the transmission grid and bring it into the heart of communities. SPEN's transmission network in Scotland consists of over 150 substations, more than 4,500km of overhead lines and more than 600km of underground cables.

As transmission licence holder for southern Scotland, SPEN is required under Section 9(2) of the Electricity Act 1989 to:

- Develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission; and
- Facilitate competition in the supply and generation of electricity.

SPEN is required to provide for new electricity generators wishing to connect to the transmission system in its licence area, to make its transmission system available for these purposes and to ensure that the system is fit for purpose through appropriate reinforcements to accommodate the contracted capacity.

Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 imposes a further statutory duty on SPEN to take account of the following factors in formulating proposals for the installation of overhead transmission lines:

- “(a) to have regard to the desirability of preserving natural beauty, of conserving flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features or special interest and of protecting sites, buildings and objects of architectural, historic or archaeological interest; and

- (b) to do what it reasonably can to mitigate any effects which the proposals would have on the natural beauty of the countryside or any such flora, fauna, features, sites, buildings or objects.”

SPEN’s ‘Schedule 9 Statement’ sets out how it will meet the duty placed upon it under Schedule 9. The Statement also refers to the application of best practice methods to assess the environmental impacts of proposals and to identify appropriate mitigation measures.

As a result of the above, SPEN is required to identify electrical connections that meet the technical requirements of the electricity system, which are economically viable, and cause on balance, the least disturbance to both the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it.

1.3 The proposed scheme

The proposals for the Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade seek to construct a new double-circuit 275kV / 400kV overhead line, running from Bonnybridge 275kV substation to a point near Glenmavis in North Lanarkshire. In addition to this, the scheme also seeks:

- A ‘spur’ from the new overhead line to Cumbernauld substation (approximately 750m), and removal of the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;
- Extending existing substations at Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse to install additional electrical equipment and carry out associated landscaping, drainage, access and fencing works where required;
- Installing new transformers at Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;
- Replacing the conductors (wires) and associated equipment on existing overhead lines to operate them at 400kV, as follows:
 - Newarthill to Wishaw (XR route) – 16km
 - Newarthill to Easterhouse (XX route) – 15.4km
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- Alterations to the overhead lines where they enter the substations (to connect them to the new equipment)
- Moving the existing XX overhead line further away from residential properties at Grantown Gardens, Glenmavis, through a new ‘tee-in’ arrangement to the proposed new overhead line
- Undergrounding of two sections of the existing 132kV overhead line (AA route) between Bonnybridge and Bathgate, where it is crossed by the proposed new overhead line

SPEN’s plans will help to better distribute energy, getting more energy from where it’s produced and directing it to where it’s needed.

1.4 Identifying the proposed scheme

SPEN has worked with environmental consultants to identify potential routes for the new overhead line between Bonnybridge and the existing Easterhouse-Newarthill overhead line near Glenmavis. SPEN appraised each option for its impact on a range of criteria, including local views, the character of the landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage and flood risk and other land uses.

The preferred route leaves Bonnybridge substation and crosses the Antonine Wall at a location that minimises potential effects on the World Heritage Site. It passes east of Rough

Castle, using dips in the landscape and screening, provided by existing trees, to reduce visibility in the landscape.

It then passes west of the Slamannan Plateau Special Protection Area (SPA) and crosses Palacerigg Country Park. SPEN has undertaken extensive assessment on the route and cannot avoid crossing the park due to the need to avoid the SPA and nearby homes on the edge of Cumbernauld. SPEN is committed to minimising disruption and intended to use the landscape and mature trees to screen the new line from views as much as possible.

Further detail on the site selection methodology can be found in our document *Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report*, which is available on our project website:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/userfiles/file/DWNO_PROUR.pdf

2. Approach to Pre-Application Consultation

2.1 Legislation and guidance

SPEN shall apply to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 for Section 37 consent and for deemed planning permission under Section 57 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, to construct the overhead lines. For the substation extensions, SPEN shall submit planning applications to Falkirk Council and North Lanarkshire Council under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

2.2 SPEN's statutory and licence responsibilities

As a transmission licence holder for central and southern Scotland, SPEN is required under Section 9(2) of the Electricity Act 1989 to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical transmission system.

SPEN also has a duty under section 38 of Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989, to have regard to the desirability of the preservation of amenity, the natural environment, cultural heritage, landscape and visual quality. SPEN also considers the effect of work on communities when putting forward proposals for new electricity lines and other transmission development.

As a result of the above, SPEN is required to identify electrical connections that meet the technical requirements of the electricity system, which are economically viable, and cause, on balance, the least disturbance to the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it.

2.3 SPEN's commitment to engagement

Stakeholder engagement, including public involvement, is an important component of the Scottish planning and consenting system. Legislation and government guidance aim to ensure that the public, local communities, statutory and other consultees and interested parties have an opportunity to have their views taken into account throughout the planning process.

Striking the right balance can be challenging, and in seeking to achieve this, SPEN recognises the importance of consulting effectively on proposals and being transparent about the decisions reached. SPEN is keen to engage with key stakeholders including local communities and others who may have an interest in the project. This engagement process begins at the early stages of development of a project and continues into construction once consent has been granted.

2.4 Consultation Strategy and approach

Whilst there are no formal pre-application requirements for consultation in seeking Section 37 consent/deemed planning permission, SPEN is embracing best practice as outlined in the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) Best Practice Guidance (July 2022). This guidance encourages applicants to engage with stakeholders and the public in order to develop their proposals in advance of such applications being made. Therefore, prior to the submission, SPEN is carrying out consultation with stakeholders and the public.

Following the submission of application for Section 37 consent and deemed planning permission, the Scottish Government ECU will, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, carry out further consultation with the public and stakeholders.

The strategy for consultation was designed to ensure that stakeholders:

- Were made aware of the proposals in a timely manner;
- Had access to project information and understood its development; and

- Could put forward their own views and be confident that issues raised would be considered.

The formal Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) submitted to Falkirk Council and North Lanarkshire Council set out a description of the development in general terms, including maps to identify the site, and set out SPEN's proposals for undertaking pre-application consultation for the substation development.

SPEN used a range of communication channels to publicise and promote the consultations, which are detailed in the following sections of this document. Respondents were also able to give feedback in different formats, depending on their own preference:

- Email: info@dennywishaw.co.uk
- Freepost: FREEPOST DENNY WISHAW UPGRADE
- Freephone: 0800 4702376
- Online via the dedicated project website:
https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/denny_wishaw_proposal.aspx
- Face-to-face or in writing at public consultation exhibitions

3. Pre-Application Consultation

3.1 Consultation Strategy

SPEN attaches great significance to the effects its works may have on the environment and local communities and is very keen to hear the views of local people to help it develop the project in the most appropriate way.

The overall objective of the consultation process is to ensure that all parties with an interest in the Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade project have access to up-to-date information and are provided with clear and easy ways in which to shape and inform SPEN's proposals at the pre-application stage. Key issues identified through this process are being recorded and presented to decision makers to assist the consents process.

As part of the consultation strategy, SPEN will hold two rounds of public consultation events for the public, stakeholders and consultees to provide comments on the proposals.

For the first round of consultation, SPEN sought feedback from consultees on the following:

- Views on the preferred route for the new overhead line
- Views on the expansion of Bonnybridge 400kV, Cumbernauld 275V, Denny North 400kV, Wishaw 400kV, and Easterhouse 275kV substations
- Comments about the proposed changes to, and uprating of, existing overhead lines
- Any wider comments consultees have

3.2 How we consulted

The consultation period ran from Monday 27 January 2025 until Thursday 17 April 2025.

SPEN wished to consult with relevant stakeholders and gain their views on the identified proposed route as well as the alternatives considered. These groups included:

- Elected members of North Lanarkshire Council and Falkirk Council areas, Members of Parliament (MP) and Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) whose constituencies are within the North Lanarkshire Council and Falkirk Council areas
- Local community councils
- Known local interest and community groups operating in the project area
- Local residents, businesses and the general public.

Prior to the start of the consultation, a notification was sent via email or letter to the stakeholders listed above advising them of the consultation, inviting them to the public events and seeking their views on the proposals.

A project leaflet explaining the proposals, the purpose of the consultation and the process for submitting feedback was prepared and distributed to approximately 24,874 properties (residential and business) within a defined radius of the project site, including the communities close to the overhead line routes and associated infrastructure. This was the principal form of direct communication with the local community. A copy of the leaflet can be found in Appendix A.

To promote the consultation, SPEN placed formal newspaper advertisements in the *Falkirk Herald and Cumbernauld News* and *Wishaw Press* newspapers over the 22nd and 23rd of January. The advert introduced the consultation with some high-level information about the project including the proposals, details of the drop-in event and the ways in which feedback could be submitted. A QR code linking to the project website was also included on the adverts. A copy of the advert can be found in Appendix B.

The project leaflet, newspaper notice, project plans, FAQs, general information about the project and the consultation and the feedback form were made available on a dedicated project website: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/denny_wishaw_proposal.aspx.

To make the website as accessible as possible, most communications created for the consultation included a QR code that linked through to the home page of the website. The website remained live following the consultation to ensure stakeholders can find out more and stay up to date on project developments.

A feedback form was made available in hard copy and online. It included five questions in relation to the project proposals and an additional section that asked demographic data including title, name, address, telephone number, email address, asking if the respondent is responding on behalf of an organisation, and which public exhibition they attended (if any).

The five project related questions were:

1. Proposed new overhead line between Bonnybridge and Glenmavis:

We need to install a new double circuit 275kV / 400kV overhead line, running north-south from Bonnybridge 275kV substation to a point near Glenmavis in North Lanarkshire, where it will connect to the existing 275kV overhead line (known as XX Route) that runs between the Easterhouse and Newarthill 275kV substations. A 'spur' from the new overhead line to Cumbernauld substation (approximately 750m), will allow us to remove the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations. Please let us have any comments on the preferred route for the new overhead line, removal of the CB route, and anything you would like us to take into account when developing our plans.

2. Substation extensions

We need to extend five substations to accommodate new equipment, so we can operate the transmission network at 400kV (400,000 volts). Which proposed substation extension do you wish to comment on?

- a. Denny North
- b. Bonnybridge
- c. Cumbernauld
- d. Easterhouse
- e. Wishaw

Please put your comments in the box below.

- 3. Please let us have any comments about our proposed reconductoring and increase in voltage from 275kV to 400kV of the existing overhead lines in the wider area, as identified in our consultation materials.
- 4. How did you find out about the project and the consultation?
 - a. Advert
 - b. Leaflet
 - c. Website
 - d. Media coverage
 - e. Social media
 - f. Word of mouth
 - g. Other, please specify
- 5. Do you have any comments about our public consultation, or any other comments you would like to make?

The closing date for submitting responses to SPEN was midnight on Friday 28 February 2025, but this was extended to Thursday 17 April 2025 to take account of the additional Gartcosh public exhibition on 27 March 2025. Following the closing date, the consultation information has remained accessible on the project website and available to download.

SPEN held six public events for the consultation. At the events, stakeholders had the opportunity to drop in to view the project proposals and talk to members of the project team to discuss any questions or concerns that they had. The materials made available at the events included eight pull up banners which provided detail on each aspect of the proposals, hard copies of maps and relevant project documents. A copy of the banners can be found in Appendix C.

The events were attended by 99 people, including local community representatives, business owners and landowners, as well as local residents, as follows:

- Newarthill Community Facility, Wednesday 29 January from 2pm to 7pm (15 attendees)
- Muirfield Community Centre, Cumbernauld, Thursday 30 January from 4pm to 7pm (13 attendees)
- Pather Community Centre, Wishaw, Friday 31 January from 2pm to 7pm (15 attendees)
- Gartcosh Social Club, Tuesday 04 February from 2pm to 7pm (1 attendee)
- Bonnybridge Community Education Centre, Wednesday 05 February from 3.15pm to 7pm (25 attendees)
- Glenmavis Community Facility, Thursday 06 February from 2pm to 7pm (30 attendees)

Following a request from North Lanarkshire Council, an additional (seventh) consultation event was held at the Gartcosh Social Club with particular reference to the plans to extend Easterhouse Substation. The event took place on the 27 March 2025 from 2pm to 7pm following readvertisement. There were no attendees.

Organisations whose representatives attended the events included:

- Greenhill Historical Society
- Scottish Canals
- Bean Goose Advisory Group (BGAG)
- Roots
- Cleland Community Council
- North Lanarkshire Council

3.3 Summary of feedback

Stakeholders could submit feedback in various methods as outlined in Section 2.4. All feedback received as part of the consultation was analysed by members of the project team.

Respondents were made aware via a data protection statement that any comments they made could be made available to certain bodies for the purposes of the consultation and for creating reports. This included the Scottish Government and relevant planning authorities.

SPEN will continue to review comments in the context of the development of the project at each stage.

A total of 24 feedback forms were submitted during the consultation period via hard copy forms sent to the FREEPOST address, online via the website feedback form and by email. Comments received over the consultation period raised a range of concerns, including health and safety, some concerns regarding the location of substations, the overhead line cable route, health and safety, and environmental impacts.

The hardcopy documents received through the FREEPOST address were collected, scanned and securely saved on the project's SharePoint. The response forms were then transcribed into the project CRM database, utilising an interface which mirrored that used by

the public for online responses. These were then imported into the analysis database via CSV.

Emails received in the project mailbox which were categorised as consultation feedback were separated from the general correspondence. Emails were securely saved on the project's SharePoint and manually transcribed into the analysis database. Each consultation response was sent a standard acknowledgement in the form of an automated response for internet and email submissions, and given a unique identification number. Where provided by the respondent, contact details were recorded and added to the communication database so respondents could receive project updates.

3.4 Topics raised during the consultation

Table 1 (see 3.5 below) summarises the key themes that arose during the first round of pre-application consultation as well as SPEN's response to these themes.

3.5 SPEN's response to the feedback

The comments received as feedback will be considered by SPEN and will help to shape the project as the detailed design continues. The key themes that arose in the comments have been summarised below with a response from SPEN.

Table 1 Summary of the key feedback themes received during the consultation and responses from SPEN

Key theme	Example comments	SPEN response
Environmental and biodiversity impact	The route will cause impact on established & protected wildlife and ecological environments especially those surrounding Palacerigg Country Park and surrounding agricultural land.	With regard to the impact on wildlife and ecology, the proposal will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which will fully consider impacts on environment, ecology and land use. The proposal will accord with the National Planning Policy 4 requirements to enhance biodiversity. SP Energy Networks will comply with Schedule 9 responsibilities as set out in the Electricity Act 1989 when balancing the development requirements against impacts on fauna. The EIA will include details of Biodiversity Net Gain proposals. SPEN believes the preferred route for the new overhead line best balances its licence obligations and environmental considerations, and continues to work with statutory bodies and local stakeholders to look at how to mitigate potential impacts. More information about how SPEN appraised routeing and siting options for the proposed new infrastructure can be found in the <i>Denny-Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report (December 2024)</i>, which is available on the project website.
	We are keen to conserve the UK's last wintering flock of taiga bean geese. We would like to ensure your upgrading works can be confined to the months between March and early September when the geese are in Scandinavia. We are also concerned that geese are not discouraged from using habitual feeding areas adjacent to your route. Consideration should be given to undergrounding this section.	The removal of CB route, part of which goes through the Slamannan Plateau Special Protection Area (SPA), is programmed to be undertaken between August 2028 and December 2028. This element of works requires to be undertaken in advance of the new overhead line being constructed. The proposed OHL has purposefully been routed around the SPA in order to avoid impact upon the Taiga Bean Geese using the Slammanan Plateau for feeding.

Cultural heritage	Very concerned about the height and number of huge pylons which will not only blight our beautiful country but also intrude on the Rough Castle World Heritage Site.	SPEN takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously, and in formulating proposals for electricity transmission infrastructure is subject to duties under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989: “(a) <i>to have regard to the desirability of preserving natural beauty, of conserving flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest and of protecting sites, buildings and objects of architectural, historic or archaeological interest;</i> and, (b) <i>to do what it reasonably can to mitigate any effect which the proposals would have on the natural beauty of the countryside or on any such flora, fauna, features, sites, buildings or objects.</i>” SPEN believes the preferred route for the new overhead line best balances its licence obligations and environmental considerations, and continues to work with statutory bodies and local stakeholders to look at how to mitigate potential impacts. More information about how SPEN appraised routeing and siting options for the proposed new infrastructure can be found in the <i>Denny-Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report (December 2024)</i>, which is available on the project website.
Visual impact	The increase size of masts will blight the landscape. Having examined the detailed map I can see that no amount of tree shielding will suffice	As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) an assessment of potential landscape and visual impacts will be undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd edition) (GLVIA3). This will identify potential impacts and relevant mitigation measures including the development of a landscape plan. The visual assessment undertaken as part of the EIA includes representative viewpoints and will determine the degree of anticipated change to visual amenity experienced.
Impact on local community	The route will cause visual impact and be a detriment to business & health especially within our property. It will also have an effect on our property values.	We recognise that the potential visual impact of transmission infrastructure may be an issue for local communities and individuals, and our approach to routeing and siting new electricity infrastructure is to use the landscape to reduce visual effects wherever possible, and to maximise the distance of the final project from properties, wherever possible. Potential effects on individual properties from this project are considered as part of the detailed routeing and siting stage. More information can be found in the <i>Denny-Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report (December 2024)</i>, which is available on the project website. There is no evidence that new electricity transmission infrastructure has a detrimental effect on property values. A recent report by BiGGAR Economics found no adverse effects on property prices following construction of the Beaulay-Denny overhead transmission line. This report can be found on the Scottish Renewables website at https://www.scottishrenewables.com/publications/1714-house-prices-impact-of-beaulay-denny-grid-infrastructure

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Impact on traffic	Safety concerns regarding the new road/entrance on Forest Rd	The proposed vehicular access/egress requires planning permission and shall therefore form part of the planning application to be assessed by North Lanarkshire Council Planners, in consultation with their internal Roads department, who shall scrutinise the design and traffic/pedestrian safety matters associated with the proposed road. Furthermore, a Traffic Management Plan, which seeks to ensure safety associated with vehicle activity, shall be submitted with the forthcoming planning application.
	Increased road traffic	For a project of this size there will always be some temporary disruption during construction. We will work closely with affected landowners and local communities to ensure clear communication of the timing of proposed work.
	We all have dreadful memories of the constant disruption caused when Bonnybridge substation was linked to the Wind Farm near Carronbridge. Our roads still bear the scar.	The EIA process considers and proposes mitigation not only to the permanent impact of a development but also the temporary impact any development may have during construction. This includes a full assessment of noise and vibration and the impact of the scheme on communities and on the local and private road network. Traffic and Transport impacts will also be considered in the EIA including a traffic management plan.
Overhead line route	The upgrade of the route should follow already established pathways and network routes	We appraised each option for its impact on a range of criteria including local views, the character of the landscape, biodiversity, forestry, cultural heritage and flood risk and other land uses. Our preferred route (a swathe of land within which an overhead line could be installed), is the one that we believe achieves the best balance between technical requirements and minimising the impact on the environment and the people, who live, work and enjoy spending time in the area. More information can be found in the <i>Denny-Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report (December 2024)</i>, which is available on the project website.
	The line is passing over historical places of interest + wet lands for conservation, peat lands, farm land etc.	The routing of overhead lines is a complex process, requiring a balance to be struck between statutory obligations, engineering requirements, economic viability, the environment, and people who live, work or enjoy leisure time in the area. Established guidelines for routing transmission overhead lines are in place, which combine in-depth environmental studies with technical and economic factors. A key part of this is consultation with landowners, stakeholders and the public to inform the development of the project. SPEN believes the preferred route for the new overhead line best balances its licence obligations and environmental considerations, and continues to work with statutory bodies and local stakeholders to look at how to mitigate potential impacts. More information about

		how SPEN appraised routeing and siting options for the proposed new infrastructure can be found in the <i>Denny-Wishaw Network Upgrade Preferred Route Option Update Report (December 2024)</i> , which is available on the project website.
Impact on human health	The project will have major health implication to the housing and people living close and nearby as studies have shown links to cancer.	SP Energy Networks complies with the guidelines on exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs) published by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), which have been adopted as UK Government policy. The UK electricity industry designs all new equipment to comply with the guidelines. Full information can be found at https://emfs.info/
	This is cause for major concern regarding health please be accurate to the public of the fall out of these high voltage pylons and explain exactly what the voltage will entail	
Cumbernauld substation	The substation at Cumbernauld already has made a substantial impact on the areas it is located. If this substation is increased in size & capacity it will further impact the environment & surrounding wildlife and protected environment	With regard to the potential impact on wildlife and ecology, the proposal will be supported by an EIA which will fully consider impacts on ecology and the proposal will accord with the National Planning Policy 4 requirements to enhance biodiversity. SP Energy Networks will comply with Schedule 9 responsibilities as set out in the Electricity Act 1989 when balancing the development requirements against impacts on fauna. The EIA will include details of Biodiversity Net Gain proposals.
Bonnybridge substation	The proportionate increase in local usage due to substation expansion does not present cause for concern.	Noted.
Need for the project	Who exactly is this expansion serving? We require a greener usage of energy, not more power and endless expense.	The UK and Scottish Governments have set legally binding targets to reach net zero in greenhouse gas emissions and end their contributions to climate change by 2050 and 2045 in the Climate change Act 2008 and Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 respectively. Decarbonisation of the energy sector is a central pillar of both governments' net zero strategies meaning the way in which energy is generated, transported and used is undergoing transformational change. Traditional fossil fuel-based forms of generation are being retired and replaced by renewable and low carbon sources of energy generation including onshore and offshore wind as well as being supported by increased interconnection with Europe. Offshore wind is a critical component of the UK Government's energy strategy with targets to increase installed capacity from around 10 gigawatts (GW)

Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade
Summary of Feedback from First Round of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

		today to 40GW by 2030 and then increased to 50GW by 2030. Similarly in Scotland, the Scottish Government's Offshore Wind Policy Statement identifies a target of up to 11 GW of installed offshore wind capacity in Scottish Waters by 2030. These onshore and offshore wind targets were most recently reaffirmed in the Scottish Government's Green Industrial Strategy published in September 2024. Our planning work with the National Energy System Operator (NESO) has identified that, for the UK to meet its Net Zero carbon emissions targets, we need to reinforce the network between Denny and Wishaw so it has extra capacity to transmit the additional energy. This reinforcement includes uprating some existing overhead lines from 275kV to 400kV to increase their capacity, and building the proposed new overhead transmission line between Bonnybridge and a point near Glenmavis, enabling the additional green electricity to flow into the wider transmission network. The Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade is needed because the high-voltage transmission network in central Scotland will soon be at full capacity – unable to accommodate all the clean, green renewable energy we will all need in future. It will link up existing transmission lines and allow an additional 1,000MW (megawatts) of green energy to flow through the electricity transmission network, helping Scotland and the UK meet Net Zero climate change targets.
Quality of consultation	Public consultation was poorly advertised/marketed with little notice to those who would be impacted!	We first consulted on our draft proposals in 2021. Since then we have updated the plans and from January to April 2025, we held a first round of pre-application consultation on the revised proposals. Prior to both of these consultation periods, the consultation events were advertised in local newspapers, and a leaflet was sent to homes and businesses in the local area. In addition to this Pre-Application Consultation, SPEN has continued to engage with stakeholders and landowners throughout the project development process. The Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade contact centre (Freephone, email and Freepost address) has also remained available throughout, and we have continued to respond to enquiries and comments from local communities and stakeholders. All project information has also been available on the project website throughout.
	I attended the Bonnybridge meeting and felt that the maps provided were insufficient and arduous to read.	Large-scale maps printed at A0 size were available to view at the public exhibitions, where members of the project team were also available to answer detailed questions. An interactive map is also available on the project website, allowing people to zoom in on specific locations. This can be found at: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/98c8c9668558469faf59f5f7fbf14c39/

	The personnel in attendance at Bonnybridge were professional, helpful and friendly in answering my questions.	Stakeholder engagement, including public involvement, is an important component of the Scottish planning and consenting system. Legislation and government guidance aim to ensure that the public, local communities, statutory and other consultees and interested parties have an opportunity to have their views taken into account throughout the planning process. Striking the right balance can be challenging, and in seeking to achieve this, SPEN recognises the importance of consulting effectively on proposals and being transparent about the decisions reached. SPEN is keen to engage with key stakeholders including local communities and others who may have an interest in the project. This engagement process begins at the early stages of development of a project and continues into construction once consent has been granted.
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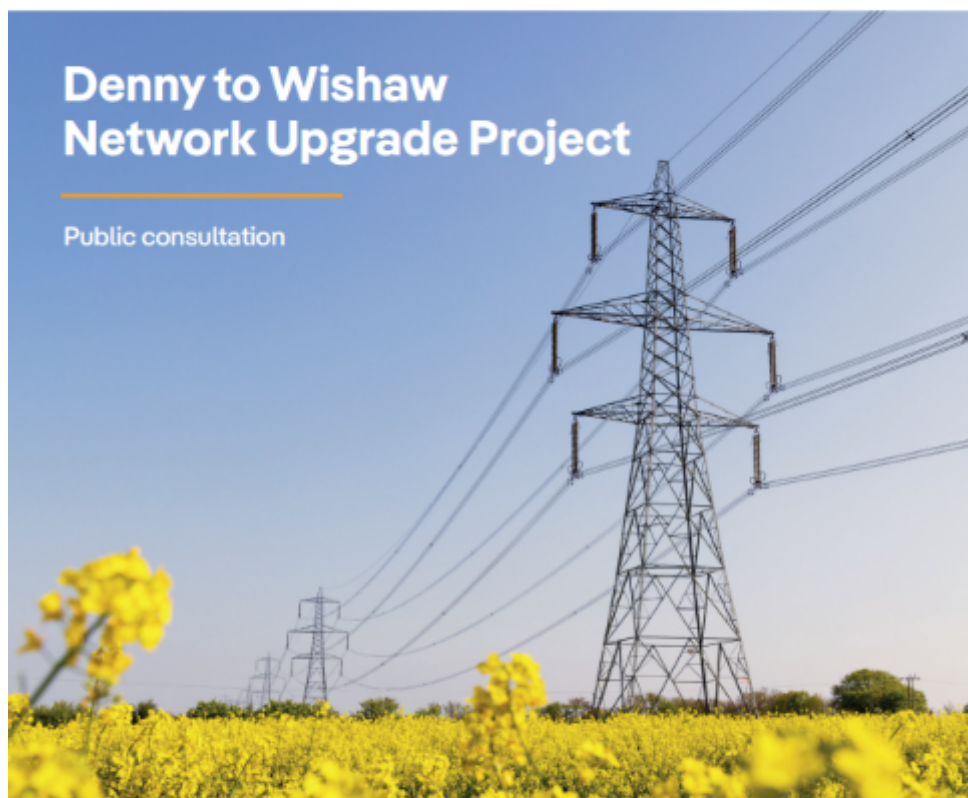
4. Next steps

Following the first round of the pre application consultation, SPEN will develop a detailed design for the substation layout, taking into account the comments received from the public. These revised proposals will be presented at a second round of consultation.

Once the second round of consultation is complete, SPEN will carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Following completion of the EIA, SPEN will prepare a detailed development and design proposal and submit an application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. Additional planning applications will also be submitted to both Falkirk Council and North Lanarkshire Council. The Councils will then invite representations from local people and stakeholders before deciding whether to grant planning permission, and to inform any conditions that may be required under permission.

5. Appendices

Appendix A: Project leaflet



Scotland is producing more clean, green energy than ever before, and we need to strengthen the electricity transmission network so we can get it to the homes, schools and businesses that need it.

The UK and Scottish Governments are committed to increasing the use of renewable energy and have targets to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 in Scotland and 2050 in the UK.

To help make this happen, we need to increase the capacity of the transmission network between Denny and Wishaw. This includes extending some electricity substations, increasing the voltage of some existing overhead lines, and installing a new overhead transmission

line between Bonnybridge and a point near Glenmavis, where it will be joined to an existing overhead line - allowing the additional green energy to get to where it's needed.

We first consulted on this project in 2021. We are now holding a further public consultation so local people can give us their views on our updated plans.

This leaflet tells you about our proposals, where to find more information, and how you can comment.

**Our public consultation runs
until Friday 28 February 2025.**



Why is this project needed?

The electricity transmission network in central Scotland was first built in the 1920s. Since then it has grown and evolved to meet the region's industrial needs and serve its expanding population.

Today, the existing electricity network in Falkirk and Lanarkshire includes overhead lines operating at 275kV (275,000 volts) and 132kV (132,000 volts), which transport energy through the region and also serve local communities through Grid Supply Points (GSPs) at Bonnybridge, Cumbernauld, Easterhouse, Newarthill, Coatbridge and Wishaw.

SP Energy Networks (SPEN) is responsible for the transmission and distribution of electricity in central and southern Scotland. We have an obligation to maintain, operate and invest in our network to secure a safe, reliable, and economic service for current and future customers.

Our planning work with the National Energy System Operator (NESO) has identified that, for the UK to meet its Net Zero carbon emissions targets, we need to reinforce the network between Denny and Wishaw so it has extra capacity to transmit the additional green energy. This reinforcement includes upgrading some existing overhead lines from 275kV to 400kV and building the proposed new overhead transmission line between Bonnybridge and a point near Glenmavis.



What does the project involve?

The Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade Project includes:

- Construction of a new double circuit 275kV / 400kV overhead line, running north-south from Bonnybridge 275kV substation to a point near Glenmavis in North Lanarkshire, where it will connect to the existing 275kV overhead line (known as XX Route) that runs between the Easterhouse and Newarthill 275kV substations;
- A 'spur' from the new overhead line to Cumbernauld substation (approximately 750m), and removal of the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;

- Extending our existing substations at Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse so we can install additional electrical equipment and carry out associated landscaping, drainage, access and fencing works where required;
- Installing new transformers at Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld substations;
- Replacing the conductors (wires) and associated equipment on existing overhead lines so we can operate them at 400kV, as follows:
 - Newarthill to Wishaw (XR route) – 16km
 - Newarthill to Easterhouse (XX route) – 15.4km
 - Denny North to Bonnybridge (ZG route) – 4km
- Alterations to the overhead lines where they enter the substations (to connect them to the new equipment)
- Moving the existing XX overhead line further away from residential properties at Grantown Gardens, Glenmavis, through a new 'tee-in' arrangement to the proposed new overhead line
- Undergrounding of two sections of the existing 132kV overhead line (AA route) between Bonnybridge and Bathgate, where it is crossed by the proposed new overhead line



What will the new overhead line look like?

The new overhead line will be carried on steel lattice towers (pylons). The towers will have three arms on each side, and each arm will carry a set of conductors (wires).

This is because there will be a circuit on each side of the towers, and each circuit has three sets of wires. The towers are made of galvanised steel. They are grey in colour and become duller in appearance after about 18 months.

The towers have a standard height of 46 metres, but can go up to 63 metres where required to ensure electrical safety clearance to the ground. They are placed approximately 300 metres apart, but the exact distance between them will vary depending on the landscape and any obstacles such as roads, rivers and railway lines.

Public consultation

**Our public consultation runs
from Monday 27 January to
Friday 28 February 2025.**

SPEN attaches great importance to the effect our work may have on the environment and local communities. We want to hear what local people think about our plans, to help us develop the project in the best way.

Please come along to one of our public exhibitions, where you can see our plans in more detail and ask questions of the project team.



Date	Location
Wednesday 29 January, 2pm to 7pm	Newarthill Community Facility , High Street, Newarthill ML1 5JU
Thursday 30 January, 4pm to 8pm	Muirfield Community Centre , 1a South Muirhead Road, Cumbernauld G67 1AX
Friday 31 January, 2pm to 7pm	Pather Community Centre , Caledonian Road, Pather, Wishaw ML2 9HZ
Tuesday 04 February, 2pm to 7pm	Gartcosh Social Club , Beard Crescent, Eastgate, Gartcosh G69 8AT
Wednesday 05 February, 3.15pm to 7pm	Bonnybridge Community Education Centre , Bridge Street, Bonnybridge FK4 1AA
Thursday 06 February, 2pm to 7pm	Glenmavis Community Facility , 107 Coatbridge Road, Glenmavis ML6 0NJ

All project documents are on our project website, where you can also fill in an online feedback form.

If you don't have internet access, you can call our Freephone number to ask any questions you may have, or request a personal call back from a member of the

project team. We can also send you a paper feedback form and a Freepost envelope so you can complete it and return it to us free of charge.

What happens next?

Following this public consultation we will develop a detailed design and alignment for the new overhead line, including locations for towers, access routes and working areas, and detailed designs for the substation extensions. We will publish a report summarising the feedback received and how this has influenced our proposals.

We will then carry out a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment and hold a further round of public consultation, so that people can give us their views on the detailed route alignment and substation proposals.

After considering that additional feedback we will finalise our proposals and submit applications for consent.

For the proposed new overhead line, alterations to existing overhead lines and the increases in voltage, we need to submit applications to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. The applications will be considered by the Scottish Ministers.

For the substation extensions, we need to submit planning applications to Falkirk Council and North Lanarkshire Council under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended).

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authorities. When we submit applications for development consent in the future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.





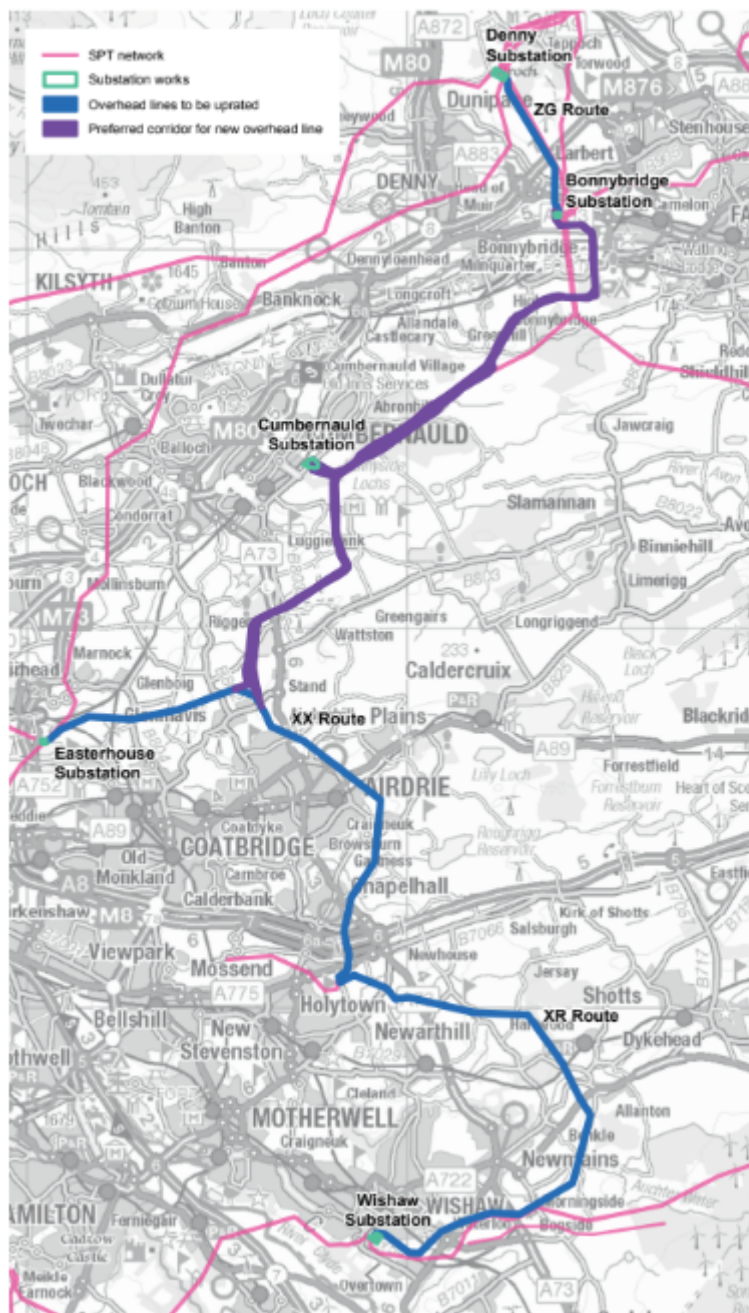
How to contact us

Website: www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/denny_wishaw.aspx
Email: info@dennywishaw.co.uk
Freephone: 0800 470 2376
Freepost: FREEPOST DENNY WISHAW UPGRADE



Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade

Summary of Feedback from First Round of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)



Our preferred route

The map shows our preferred route for the new overhead line, the existing overhead lines to be upgraded, and the substations we need to extend.

SPEN has worked with environmental consultants to identify potential routes for the new overhead line between Bonnybridge and the existing Easterhouse-Rewarhill overhead line near Garmouth.

We explored each option for its impact on a range of criteria including local views, the character of the landscape, biodiversity, forestry, cultural heritage and flood risk and other land uses.

Our preferred route is the one that we believe achieves the best balance between our technical requirements and minimising the impact on the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy spending their time in the area.

Our preferred route leaves Bonnybridge substation and crosses the A73 at a location that minimises potential effects on the World Heritage Site. It passes east of Rough Castle, using dips in the landscape and screening provided by existing trees to reduce visibility in the landscape.

The preferred route then passes west of the Stannerman Plateau Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and crosses Pitsburgh Country Park. We can't avoid crossing the park because of the need to avoid the SPA and SSSI and nearby homes on the edge of Cumbernauld, but we will use the landscape and mature trees to screen the new line from views as much as possible.

A 'spur' from the new line to Cumbernauld substation will allow us to remove the existing 110kV overhead line (OHL route) in its entirety between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld.

The preferred route then avoids the Community Growth Area and planned development north of Ardrie and east of the A73, before terminating at a point near Garmouth where it joins on to the existing Easterhouse-Rewarhill overhead transmission line. A new 'see-it' section will be created at this point, allowing us to move the existing OHL overhead line away from residential properties at Sharnon Gardens and Eden Court.

You can find full details of the preferred route and the alternatives we considered, our routing strategy and the findings of our options appraisal process, in the Routing and Consultation Document on our project website, along with the Preferred Route Option - Update Report which explains how we have modified our proposals since 2015.



An example of an 11kV transmission tower

Appendix B: Newspaper advert

Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade



We'd like your views!

Scotland is producing more clean, green energy than ever before, and we need to strengthen the transmission network between Denny and Wishaw so we can get it to the homes, schools and businesses that need it.

To help make this happen we need to build a new 400,000-volt (400kV) overhead transmission line between our substation at Bonnybridge and a point near Glenmavis, where it would join on to an existing overhead line. We also plan to move the existing line further away from houses at Glenmavis.

There would be a 'spur' from the new line to Cumbernauld substation, allowing us to remove the existing 132kV overhead line between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld.

We will also need to increase the voltage of some existing overhead lines from 275kV to 400kV, and carry out substation improvement works at Denny North, Bonnybridge, Cumbernauld, Easterhouse and Wishaw.

We consulted on our initial plans in 2021. We are now asking for comments on our updated plans to help us develop the project in the best way.

Please come along to one of our public exhibitions to see our plans in more detail and ask questions of the project team.

You can also find more information on our website: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/denny_wishaw.aspx

Wednesday 29 January, 2pm to 7pm:
Newarthill Community Facility, High Street, Newarthill ML1 5JU

Thursday 30 January, 4pm to 8pm:
Muirfield Community Centre, 1a South Muirhead Road, Cumbernauld G67 1AX

Friday 31 January, 2pm to 7pm:
Pather Community Centre, Caledonian Road, Wishaw ML2 9HZ

Tuesday 04 February, 2pm to 7pm:
Gartcosh Social Club, Beard Crescent, Eastgate, Gartcosh G69 8AT

Wednesday 05 February, 2pm to 7pm:
Bonnybridge Community Education Centre, Bridge Street, Bonnybridge FK4 1AA

Thursday 06 February, 2pm to 7pm:
Glenmavis Community Facility, 107 Coatbridge Road, Glenmavis ML6 0NJ

You can leave comments on the website, and you can also contact us in the following ways:

Phone: 0800 470 2376
Email: info@dennywishaw.co.uk
Post: FREEPOST DENNY WISHAW UPGRADE

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authorities. When we make applications for development consent in the future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.



Our public consultation runs until Friday 28 February 2025.

Appendix C: Exhibition boards

About SP Energy Networks



We all expect electricity to be available at the flick of a switch, 24 hours a day.

In southern and central Scotland the job of making sure that happens belongs to SP Energy Networks (SPEN). In fact we have a statutory duty to do it.

SPEN operates, maintains and develops the network of cables, overhead lines and substations which transport electricity to homes and businesses in southern and central Scotland, and onwards to where it's needed further afield.

The high-voltage electricity transmission network, which operates at up to 400,000 volts, is managed by SP Transmission plc, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SPEN.

We take electricity generated from wind farms, power stations and imports, and transport it through our transmission network – over 3700 km of overhead lines, over 600 km of underground cables and more than 150 substations – to local distribution networks, where the voltage is reduced for use in homes and businesses.

Electricity in our changing world



Scotland is a world leader in the fight against climate change.

Our country has a target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 – meaning that Scotland's contribution to climate change will end, definitively, in one generation.

We are in the middle of a transformation, with the energy we use increasingly coming from cleaner, greener sources, as many new renewable generators replace fossil-fuelled power stations.

At the same time, demand for electricity will grow rapidly over the next few years, with electric vehicles replacing petrol and diesel, and increased electrification of heating, industry and transport networks.

This huge change means we need to upgrade Scotland's electricity transmission network, so we can get this increasing amount of energy from where it's produced – often in different locations from before – to the homes, businesses, hospitals and public services that need it.

Our network is also crucial to the delivery of wider renewable energy objectives, due to its position in an area of outstanding renewable resource and our geographical location. We have a unique role in connecting renewable energy and transferring it from Scotland into England and Wales, benefiting stakeholders, society and the fight against climate change.

What is the **Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade Project?**



The electricity transmission network in central Scotland was first built in the 1920s. Since then it has grown and evolved to meet the region's industrial needs and serve its expanding population.

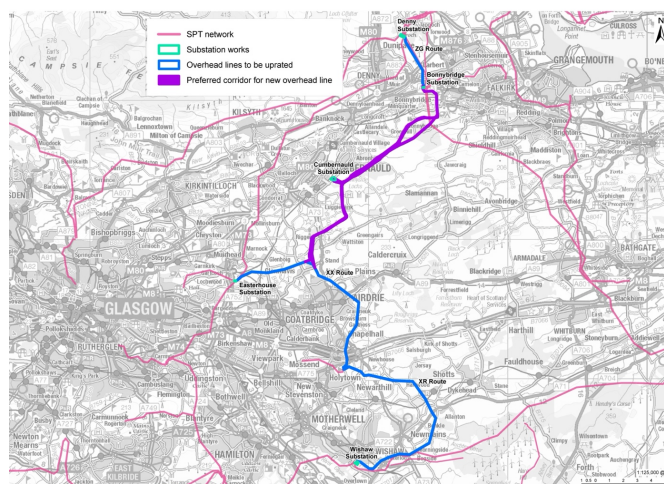
Today, the existing electricity network in Falkirk and Lanarkshire includes overhead lines operating at 275kV (275,000 volts) and 132kV (132,000 volts), which transport energy through the region and also serve local communities through Grid Supply Points (GSPs) at Denny, Bonnybridge, Cumbernauld, Easterhouse, Newarthill, Coatbridge and Wishaw.

Our planning work with the National Energy System Operator (NESO) has identified that, for the UK to meet its Net Zero carbon emissions targets, we need to reinforce the network between Denny and Wishaw so it has extra capacity to transmit the additional green energy.

This reinforcement includes:

- Upgrading some existing overhead lines from 275kV to 400kV (most of the UK transmission network already operates at 400kV);
- Building a new 275kV/400kV overhead transmission line between Bonnybridge and a point near Glenmavis; and
- Extending the existing substations at Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse to house new 400kV transformers and other equipment.

New transmission line between Bonnybridge and Glenmavis



The proposed new overhead line will run from Bonnybridge substation to a point near Glenmavis, where it will connect to the existing Easterhouse-Newarthill overhead line.

Our preferred route crosses the Antonine Wall at a location that minimises effects on the World Heritage Site. It passes east of Rough Castle and then west of the Slamannan Plateau Special Protection Area (SPA), and crosses Palacerigg Country Park. We can't avoid crossing the park because of the need to avoid the SPA and nearby homes on the edge of Cumbernauld, but we will use the landscape and mature trees to screen the new line from views as much as possible.

A 'spur' from the new line to Cumbernauld substation will allow us to remove the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) in its entirety between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld.

The preferred route then avoids the Community Growth Areas and planned development north of Airdrie and east of the A73, before terminating at a point near Glenmavis where it joins on to the existing Easterhouse-Newarthill overhead transmission line.

A new 'tee-in' section will be created at this point, allowing us to move the existing XX overhead line away from residential properties at Granttown Gardens and Eden Court.

What will the new overhead line look like?



The proposed new overhead line will be carried on steel lattice towers (pylons).

The towers will have three arms on each side, and each arm will carry a set of conductors (wires).

This is because there will be a circuit on each side of the towers, and each circuit has three sets of wires.

The towers are made of galvanised steel. They are grey in colour and become duller in appearance after about 18 months.

The towers have a standard height of 46 metres, but can go up to 63 metres where required to ensure electrical safety clearance to the ground. They are placed approximately 300 metres apart, but the exact distance between them will vary depending on the landscape and any obstacles such as roads, rivers and railway lines.

How did you select a route for the overhead line?



The routing of overhead lines is a complex process, requiring a balance to be struck between statutory obligations, engineering requirements, economic viability and potential effects on the environment and local communities.

We are following established guidelines for routing transmission overhead lines, which combine in-depth environmental studies with technical and economic factors. A key part of this is consultation with landowners, stakeholders and the public to inform the development of the project.

SPEN worked with environmental consultants to identify potential routes for the new overhead line between Bonnybridge and Glenmavis, which we first published in 2021.

We appraised each option for its impact on a range of criteria including local views, the character of the landscape, biodiversity, forestry, cultural heritage, flood risk, geology, and other land uses.

Our preferred route (a swathe of land within which an overhead line could be installed), is the one that we believe achieves the best balance between our technical requirements and minimising the impact on the environment and the people, who live, work and enjoy spending their time in the area.

You can find full details of the preferred route and the alternatives we considered, our routing strategy and the findings of our options appraisal process, in the Routing and Consultation Document on our project website, along with the Preferred Route Option – Update Report which explains how we have modified our proposals since 2021.

Changes to existing substations and overhead lines



The project includes extending our existing substations at Bonnybridge, Denny North, Cumbernauld, Wishaw and Easterhouse so we can install additional electrical equipment and carry out associated landscaping, drainage, access and fencing works where required.

Some existing overhead lines will require minor alterations or diversions where they enter the substations, to connect them to the new equipment.

We will also need to replace the conductors (wires) and associated equipment on the following overhead lines so we can increase their voltage from 275kV to 400kV:

- Newarthill to Wishaw (XR route) – 16km
- Newarthill to Easterhouse (XX route) – 15.4km
- Denny North to Bonnybridge (ZG route) – 4km

The project also provides an opportunity to move the existing XX overhead line further away from residential properties at Grantown Gardens, Glenmavis, through a new 'tee-in' arrangement to the proposed new overhead line.

It will also allow us to remove the existing 11km 132kV overhead line (CB route) between Bonnybridge and Cumbernauld, and to underground two sections of the existing 132kV overhead line (AA route) between Bonnybridge and Bathgate, where it is crossed by the proposed new overhead line.

You can view plans of each substation site, showing the proposed changes, and maps of the overhead lines, [here](#) and on our website.

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authorities. When we submit applications for development consent in the future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.

Upgrading our overhead lines



When we increase the voltage of overhead electricity transmission lines from 275,000 volts to 400,000 volts (275kV to 400kV), we may need to replace the existing conductors (wires), earth wire, insulators and other equipment.

In order to do this, we will usually need access to each existing tower (pylon). We work closely with landowners, occupiers, local councils and stakeholders to decide how and where to install temporary access routes and working areas, when to carry out the work and how best to reinstate the land when we've finished. Sometimes we may need to put up temporary masts to keep the power flowing while we replace equipment.

The pictures below show some examples of how we refurbish towers and replace conductors, insulators and other essential components and equipment.



Supporting the communities we serve



We are on a mission to develop a safe, secure and resilient network that's ready for Net Zero, to tackle climate change and build a cleaner future for the communities we serve.



By upgrading our network to enable decarbonisation, we are unlocking long-term benefits for everyone – from a cleaner air to a more reliable supply of energy.



To make sure that local communities benefit from this transition, we have been funding community projects that boost social, economic and environmental wellbeing.



That is how we do our part at making this transition fair for everyone.



From 2018 to 2021, we delivered our **£20m Green Economy Fund**, which directly funded projects that support Scotland's green energy strategy and Net Zero targets.

- 35 projects including heat, transport, local energy systems and education
- Carbon savings of 637 tCO₂
- 58 new jobs created and 647 supported indirectly



Our **£5m Net Zero Fund** was launched in 2022 to provide guidance and support to communities in vulnerable situations, and contribute to the national Net Zero objectives.

- Tailored Community Workshops to explore solutions to local Net Zero challenges
- Project Planning and Feasibility Support to develop robust project plans
- Funding Net Zero community initiatives which support vulnerable groups of people

The UK Government is also developing guidance for Community Benefit Funding for communities that host new transmission infrastructure projects.

We are awaiting publication of this guidance, but we want to be ready to start delivering for our communities when it's in place.

We have shared our initial proposal in our Community Benefit Consultation and incorporated community funding into our R10-T3 Business Plan, which will be published in December 2024.

You can find out more on our website at

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/communityfunding

We want to
hear your views!



**Our public consultation runs from Monday
27 January 2025 to Friday 28 February 2025.**

SPEN attaches great importance to the effect our work may have on the environment and local communities.

We first consulted on the Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade Project proposals in 2021, and now we want to hear what local people think about our updated plans, to help us develop the project in the best way.

Please give us your views on our preferred route for the proposed new overhead line, the proposed substation extensions and proposed changes to existing overhead lines.

You can find more information, project documents and an online feedback form at our project website:

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/denny_wishaw.aspx



You can also contact us to ask any questions or give us your comments:

Email: info@dennywishaw.co.uk

Freephone: **0800 470 2376**

Freepost: **FREEPOST DENNY WISHAW UPGRADE**

What happens next?



Following this public consultation we will develop a detailed design and alignment for the new overhead line, including locations for towers, access routes and working areas, and detailed designs for the substation extensions.

We will publish a report summarising the feedback received and how this has influenced our proposals. We will then carry out a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment and hold a further round of public consultation, so that people can give us their views on the detailed route alignment and substation proposals.

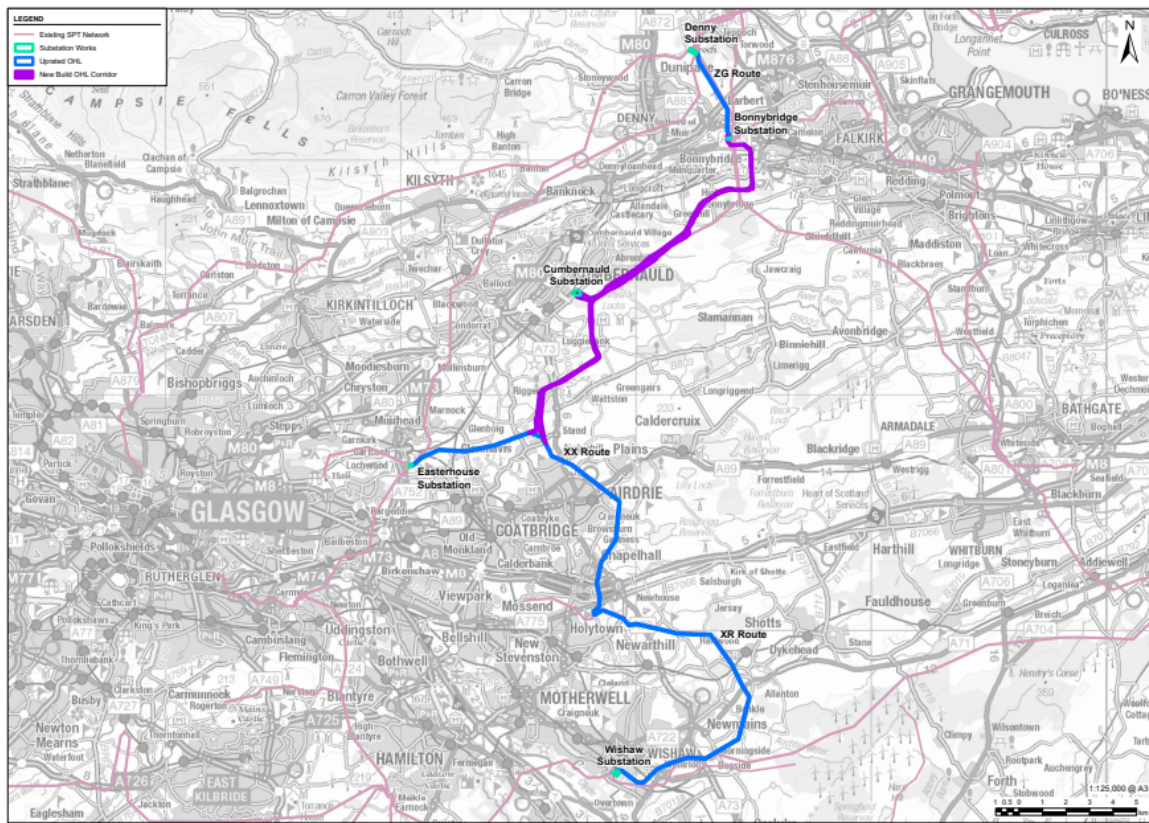
After considering that additional feedback we will finalise our proposals and submit applications for consent.

For the proposed new overhead line, alterations to existing overhead lines and the increases in voltage, we need to submit applications to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. The applications will be considered by the Scottish Ministers.

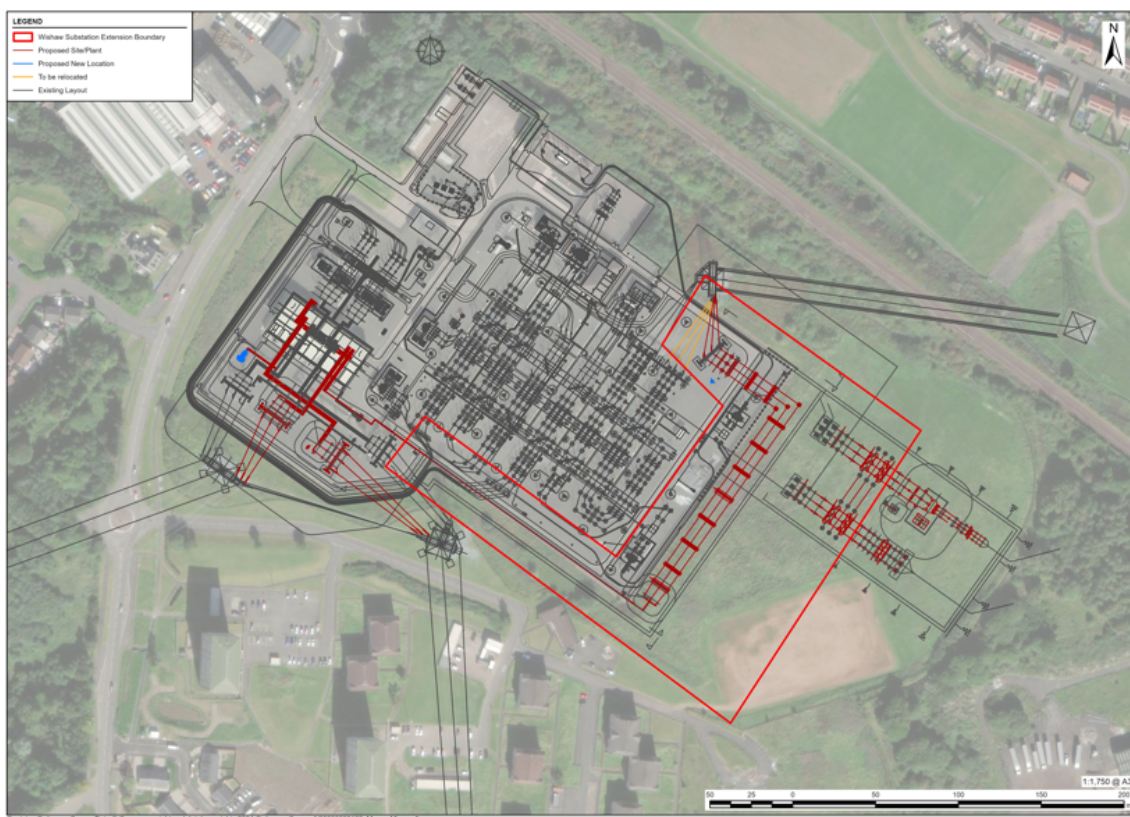
For the substation extensions, we need to submit planning applications to Falkirk Council and North Lanarkshire Council under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended).

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authorities. When we submit applications for development consent in the future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.

Appendix D: Red line boundary and proposed route

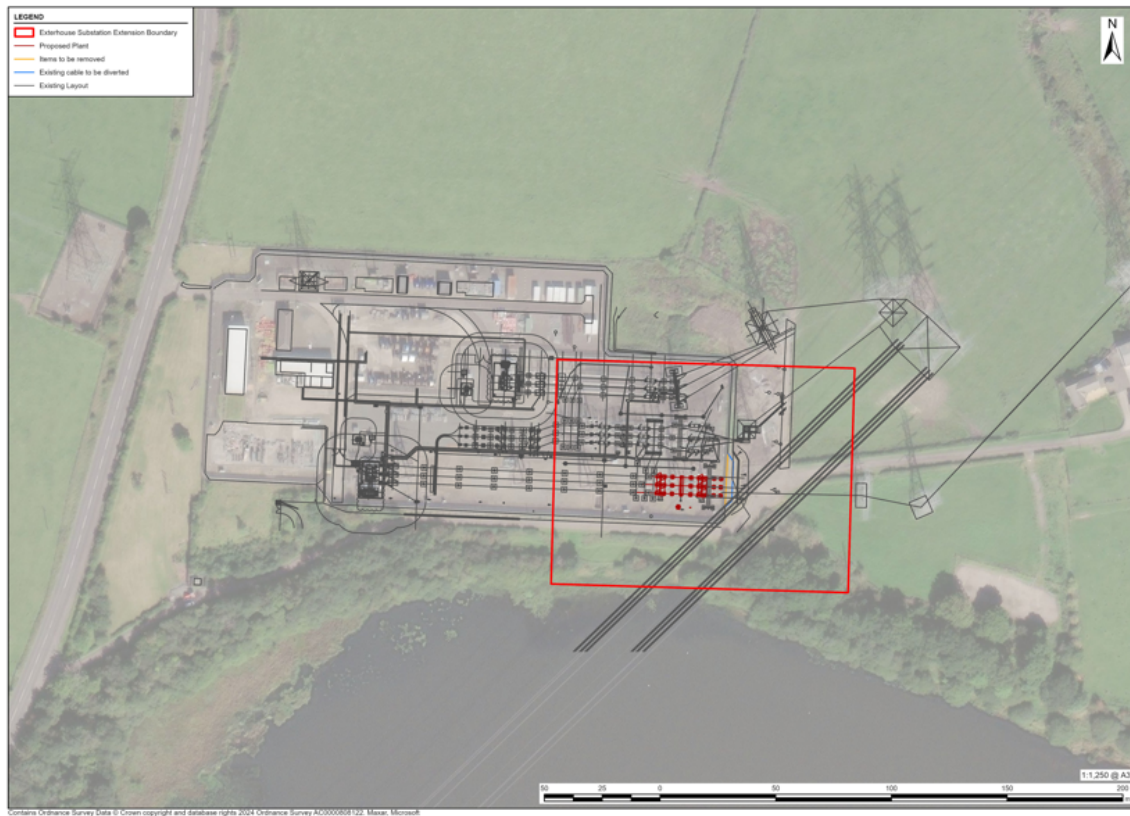


Wishaw Substation



Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade
Summary of Feedback from First Round of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

Easterhouse Substation

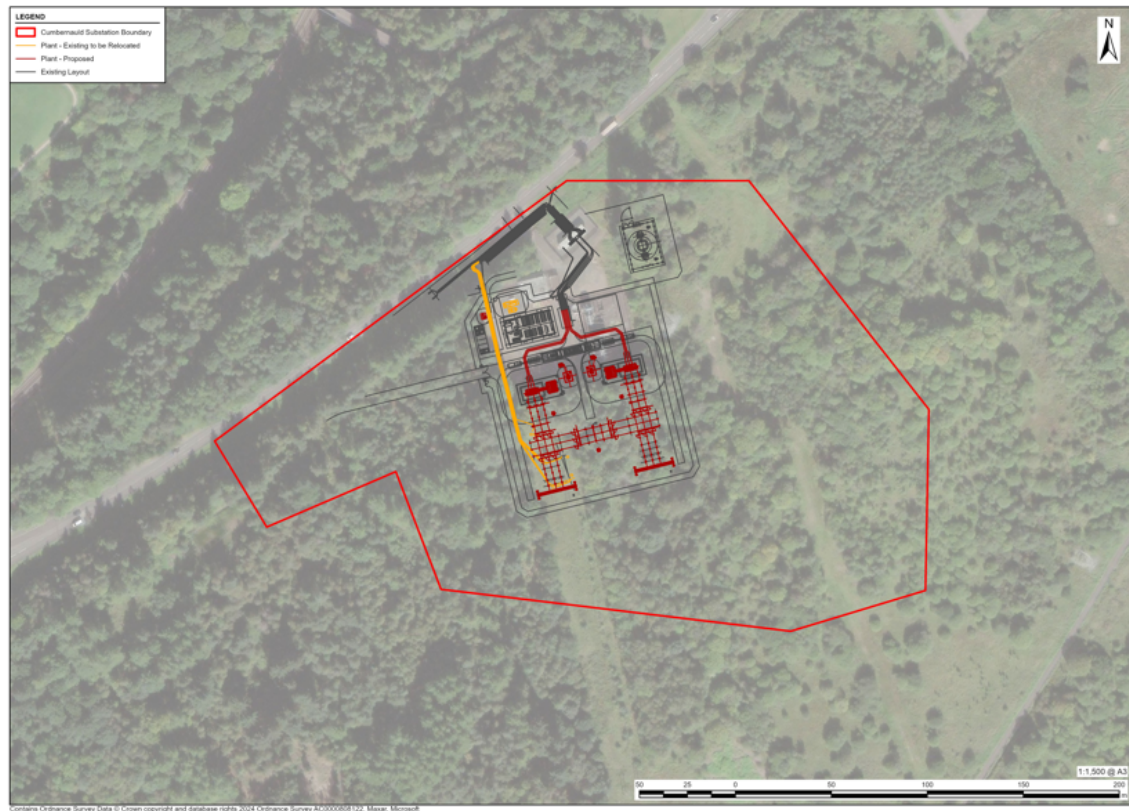


Denny North



Denny to Wishaw Network Upgrade
Summary of Feedback from First Round of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

Cumbernauld Substation



Bonnybridge Substation

