



**SP ENERGY
NETWORKS**

**Erskine to Devol Moor
132kV Overhead Line Replacement Project**

**Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
Volume 1: Main Text, Figures and Appendices**

June 2020

**Erskine to Devol Moor 132kV Overhead Line Replacement Project
Environmental Impact Assessment Report
Volume 1: Main Text, Figures and Appendices**

Prepared by
LUC
on behalf of
SP Energy Networks

June 2020



Preface

This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) has been prepared in support of an application by SP Energy Networks to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for Section 37 Consent to construct and operate a new 132kV overhead line ('the New 132kV OHL') between the existing Erskine substation and existing Devol Moor Substation, and the decommissioning of the existing 132kV steel tower overhead line ('Existing 132kV OHL'). The replacement of the Existing 132kV OHL with the New 132kV OHL, referred to collectively as the EDM Project, is located within the Inverclyde and Renfrewshire local authority areas.

The EIA Report comprises the following documents:

- Volume 1: Main Text, Figures and Appendices (this volume); and
- Volume 2: Landscape and Visual Amenity Visualisations.

A standalone Non-Technical Summary (NTS) document has been prepared to accompany this EIA Report.

Electronic copies of the NTS and all other EIA Report documents can be downloaded free of charge via the EDM Project website: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/erskine_devol_moor.aspx and the ECU portal.

A hard copy of the NTS can be requested free of charge. A hard copy of the full EIA Report costs £300.00. In addition, all documents are available in an electronic format (USB) for free.

Requests for any of the above should be made by contacting SPEN by email:

devolmoor.projectmanager@sppowersystems.com.

Any representations to the application may be submitted via the ECU portal at www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx, by email to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at representations@gov.scot, or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation.

Main Text

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Approach to EIA
- 3 Routeing and Design Strategy
- 4 Project Description
- 5 Policy Context
- 6 Landscape and Visual Amenity
- 7 Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology,
Water Resources and Peat
- 8 Ecology and Ornithology
- 9 Cultural Heritage
- 10 Forestry
- 11 Summary of Significant Effects

Figures

Figure 1.1: Overview of EDM Project

Figure 3.1: Routeing Methodology (in text)

Figure 3.2: Route Options and Preferred Route

Figure 3.3: Routeing Design Process (in text)

Figure 4.1a-h: EDM Project

Figure 6.1.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Study Area

Figure 6.1.2a - b: Pole Tip Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and Viewpoint Locations

Figure 6.1.2c: Pole Tip Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and Viewpoint Locations

Figure 6.1.3: Landscape Character Types

Figure 6.1.4: Landscape Character Types with Pole Tip Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Figure 6.1.5: Designated Landscape with Pole Tip Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Figure 6.1.6: Schemes Included in the Cumulative Assessment

The following figures (6.2.1 – 6.2.11) are included in Volume 2 of the EIA Report:

Figure 6.2.1a-g: Viewpoint 1 Old Greenock Road north of Bishopton

Figure 6.2.2a-h: Viewpoint 2 B815 Motorway Overbridge

Figure 6.2.3a-d: Viewpoint 3 Dumbarton Castle

Figure 6.2.4a-k: Viewpoint 4 Old Greenock Road

Figure 6.2.5a-j: Viewpoint 5 B789

Figure 6.2.6a-g: Viewpoint 6 Gallahill Road

Figure 6.2.7a-j: Viewpoint 7 Finlaystone Road

Figure 6.2.8a-g: Viewpoint 8 Port Glasgow

Figure 6.2.9a-m: Viewpoint 9 Devol Road

Figure 6.2.10a-h: Viewpoint 10 B788 Kilmacolm Road

Figure 6.2.11a-e: Viewpoint 11 A716 Junction with Auchenbothie Road

Figure 7.1a - f: Hydrological Setting

Figure 7.2a - f: SNH Carbon and Peatlands Map 2016

Figure 7.3a - f: Superficial Geology

Figure 7.4a - f: Bedrock Geology

Figure 7.5a - f: Water Features

Figure 8.1: Ecology Study Area

Figure 8.2: Designated Sites

Figure 8.3: Habitat Survey Results

Figure 8.4: Protected Species Survey Results

Figure 8.5: CONFIDENTIAL Badger Survey Results

Figure 8.6: Breeding Bird Territories

Figure 8.7: Bird Flights Overview

Figure 9.1: Designated Heritage Assets – Location Plan

Figure 9.2: Historic Environment Record (HER) – Location Plan

Figure 9.3: Canmore and other Cultural Heritage Data – Location Plan

Figure 9.4: Assessed Cultural Heritage Assets

Figure 10.1: Existing Woodland Cover

Figure 10.2: Potential Forestry Offsetting of Forestry Felling

Appendices

- Appendix 1.1: Statement of Competence
- Appendix 2.1: EMF Report
- Appendix 2.2: Schedule of Mitigation
- Appendix 4.1: Outline Construction and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan
- Appendix 4.2: Example Cultural Heritage Toolbox Talk
- Appendix 6.1: LVIA Methodology, ZTV and Visualisations Production
- Appendix 7.1: Watercourse Crossing Photos
- Appendix 8.1: Phase 1 and NVC Survey Report
- Appendix 8.2: Protected Species Survey Report (**Excluding Confidential Badger Survey Findings**)
- Appendix 8.3: Ornithological Survey Report
- Appendix 9.1: EDM Project Cultural Heritage Contextual Background and Gazetteers
- Appendix 9.2: Cultural Heritage Wireframes and Plates.
- Appendix 9.3: Non-designated Assets Baseline, Assessment and Plates.