

What are the Proposals?

The new OHL will be approximately 23 km in length and supported on double 'H' wood poles. One 33kV circuit breaker and one transformer will be required at the Harestanes West Wind Farm substation as well as a circuit breaker compound at the tie-in point on the 'BR' Route. As part of the wider approach, a land right will be sought with each landowner for a corridor, typically 60m wide (30m either side of the centre of the OHL), to protect the resilience of the new OHL from future development and from falling trees.

The section of OHL between the wood poles is known as the 'span'. Span lengths between the wood poles will average between 80 metres and 100 metres. The wood poles will be dark brown in colour when newly constructed and weather over the years to a light grey. The exact location of new wood poles along the final proposed route of the new OHL will be confirmed through a detailed design/technical review process as the project progresses, and will be informed by the findings of this public consultation.

OHL cables generally require refurbishment after approximately 40 years. Should the new OHL still be needed to support the operation of Harestanes West Wind Farm at the end of its operational life, then it is likely that it will be re-equipped with new conductors and insulators and refurbished. At this time, it is expected that the new OHL will be decommissioned fully when Harestanes West Wind Farm has reached the end of its operational life.

Routing

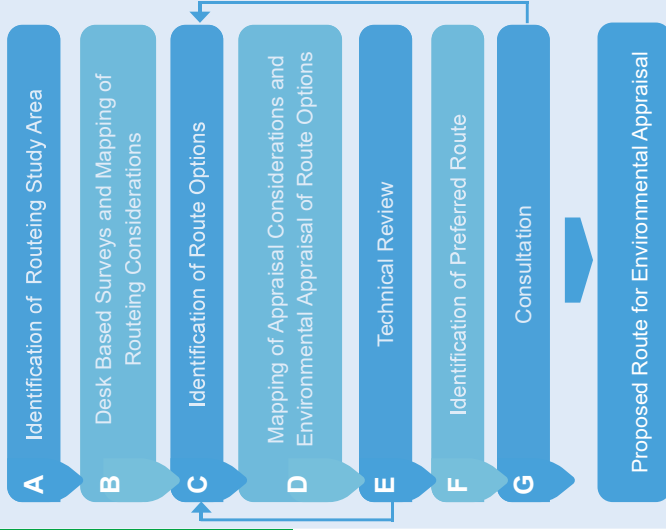
SPEN has been working with independent consultants to identify potential route options for the new overhead line (OHL). Our objective is to identify a route for the OHL which meets the technical requirements of the electricity system, which is economically viable and causes, on balance, the least disturbance to the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it.

Following the identification of an appropriate study area and informed by mapped key environmental and technical routing considerations, different route options split into sections A to E were identified for the new OHL. Each of the route options were given an alpha numeric reference:

A1 to A3, B1 to B5, C1 to C3, D1 to D4, E1 to E4. There are four towers on the existing 'BR' route within the study area which, from a technical perspective, were considered at the outset to be capable of accommodating the connection of the new OHL. These were towers BR61, BR70, BR72 and BR77. Following further technical review, including consideration of the proximity of these tie-in points to residential properties, towers BR70 and BR77 were discounted and not considered further.

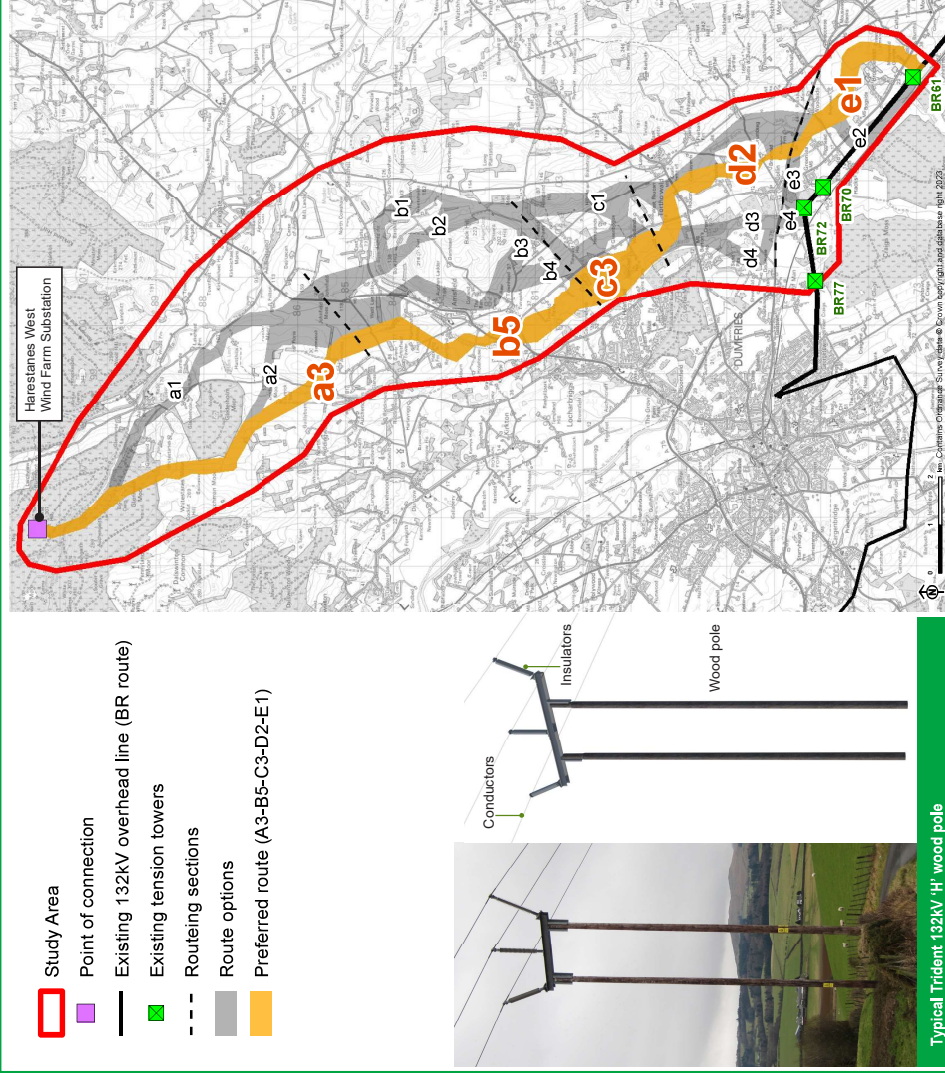
The route options were appraised against environmental and technical criteria, including local landscape character and views, cultural heritage, biodiversity, topography, proximity to existing OHLs and route length to identify the preferred route. The preferred route is the one which achieves the best overall balance between limiting impacts on the environment and people, whilst also meeting SPEN's technical requirements.

Routing Methodology



More information about the process we have followed to identify and appraise route options to select the preferred route can be found in our Routing and Consultation Documents (April 2023). This is available on the project website: www.spenergyworks.co.uk/pages/overhead_line_for_harestanes_west_wf.aspx

The Harestanes West Wind Farm 132kV Overhead Line Grid Connection Project



What we would like your views on?

As part of the consultation we would particularly like your views on:

- 1 The preferred route for the new OHL
- 2 The alternative route options we considered during the routing process.

3 Any other issues, suggestions or feedback you would like us to consider. We would particularly like to hear your views on your local area, for example areas you use for recreation, local environmental features you would like us to consider, and any plans you may have to build in proximity to the preferred route.

Please note comments at this stage are informal comments to SPEN and are made to allow SPEN to determine whether changes to the preferred route are necessary. An opportunity to comment formally to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will be the decision makers on the Section 37 application, will follow at a later stage in the process.

How do I make comments or find out more information?

Our consultation will run from **Tuesday 1st August 2023 until Friday 1st September 2023**. The closing date for you to send your responses to us is **midnight on Friday 1st September**. Following this date, the information will remain accessible online and available to download.

Please find below the best ways to find out more or talk to us.



Visit the website:
(from 1st August 2023)

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

You can view or download all the project documents (including the Routeing and Consultation Document (2023)) and this leaflet on our website



Email us:

harestaneswestohl@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Send us a letter

Harestanes West wind Farm 132kV Overhead Line Grid Connection Project
Land and Planning Team,
SP Energy Networks, 55 Fullarton Drive, Glasgow, G32 8FA

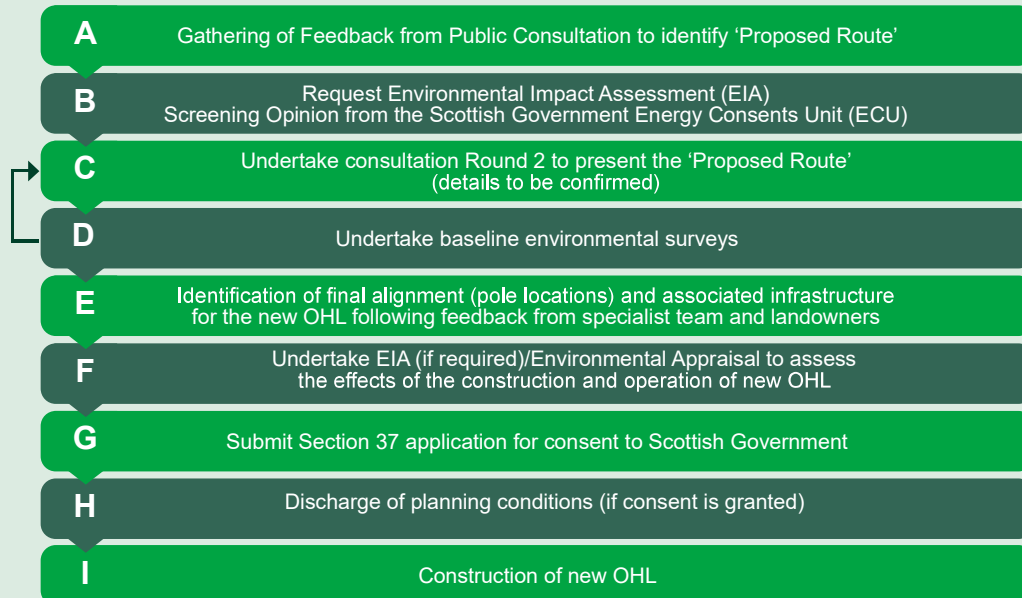


Attend a public
exhibition

The exhibitions will be held at the following locations from **12pm to 6pm** on the days stated:

- **24th August 2023 at the Hetland Hall Hotel**,
Near Carrutherstown, A75, Carrutherstown, Dumfries, DG1 4JX
- **25th August 2023 at Heathhall Community Centre**,
Barnett Rd, Heathhall, Dumfries, DG1 3RU

What happens next



Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet.