Holm Hill Substation

Proposed Project

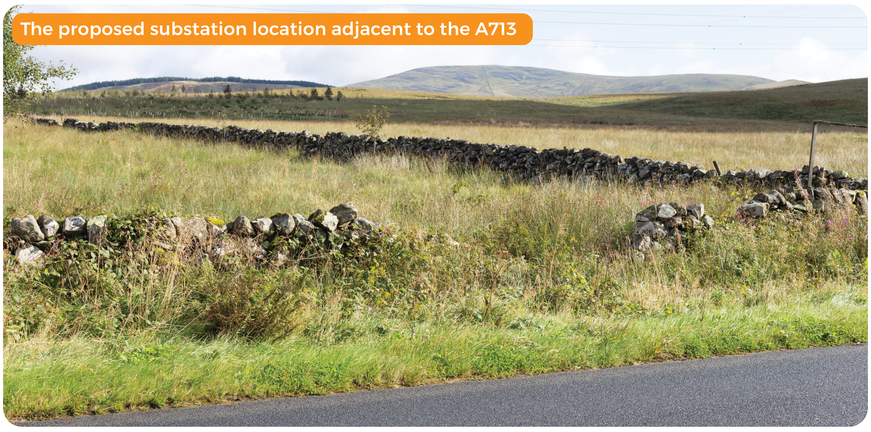
Welcome

SP Energy Networks (SPEN) is proposing to construct and operate a new 132kV substation at Holm Hill.

Our responsibilities

SPEN holds the electricity transmission licence for southern Scotland. We transport electricity generated from wind farms through our vast transmission network of overhead lines and underground cables, which we own and maintain.

We have a legal duty under the Electricity Act 1989 to provide grid connections to new electricity generating developments, including planned wind farms. Our systems play an important role in supporting the Scottish and UK Governments' renewable energy objectives.



The proposed substation location adjacent to the A713

Why a substation is needed

Substations play a crucial role in enabling the transmission of electricity across the nation to supply local communities, households and commercial establishments.

The Holm Hill substation is essential for connecting local wind farms to the existing electricity transmission network. Two 132kV wind farm connections will come into Holm Hill substation, the Lorg wind farm connection (including Euchanhead and Shepherd's Rig teed to the line) and Quantans Hill wind farm connection (including Wether Hill and Cornharrow connected to the collector at Quantans Hill).

Planning and consent

The proposed project is being progressed as an application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and will be submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Why we are consulting

Stakeholder and public involvement are an important part of the Scottish planning system. SPEN wants to ensure effective, inclusive and meaningful engagement to help progress projects and reach a balanced proposal.

This consultation offers you the opportunity to ask any questions about the proposed project before the planning application is submitted.

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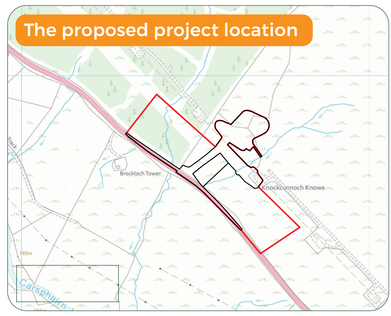
About the substation

Location

The proposed substation would be located approximately 2.5km to the north-west of Carsphairn and 7.5km south-east of Dalmellington.

The site is adjacent to the existing DE 132kV overhead line/steel pylon network, which shall connect to the proposed substation. The site is accessed via the A713 road network, positioned to the south of the site. The boundary of the site has been extended since the first consultation event to incorporate a scheme of landscape planting around the proposed substation.



Indicative design

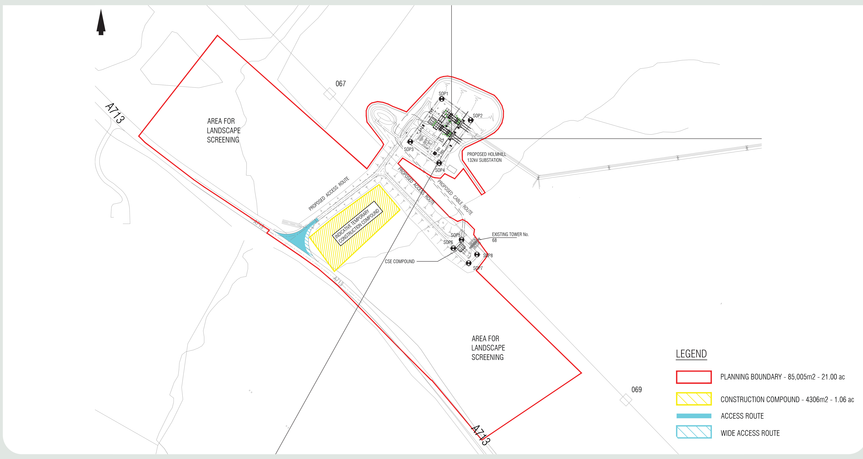
Within substations, specialised equipment facilitates the transformation of high voltage electricity from overhead lines to a lower voltage that can be transported through the distribution lines to supply homes and businesses.

The proposed Holm Hill substation is a 132kV Air Insulation Substation, which means that electrical equipment is arranged in open air compartments.

The proposed 132kV substation will comprise:

- A main platform area with electrical infrastructure, generator, control building and four car parking spaces.
- A smaller platform/compound area, which shall connect to existing adjacent pylon.
- A sustainable drainage system (SuDS) including a pond.
- A permanent vehicle access from existing A713, with bellmouth to ensure vehicles leaving the substation have clear visibility of the road.
- Other components including the security fencing, CCTV and lighting.

In response to the feedback received during the first consultation event, we are also including additional planting around the site to help reduce the visibility of the proposed substation from the road and surrounding area.



Substation dimensions

- Total substation footprint: 2Ha
- Main platform: 60m x 40m
- Building heights: approximately 3.8m
- Substation plant height: will vary between 2.7m and 9.5m
- Overhead line gantry height: 10m

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