Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation Overhead Line Grid Connection

Consultation Feedback Report

October 2025

Environmental Planning

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01.
Introduction

1. Introduction and Context

1.1 Purpose of the Report

1.1.1 This document has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) and Stantec on behalf of Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN). It relates to the public consultation undertaken on the identification and appraisal of route options for a new 132 kilovolts (kV) overhead line (OHL) between Redshaw Substation and the proposed Bankend Rig III Collector Substation via the provision of a connection to Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Substation, hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'. The public consultation for this project occurred during April and May 2025.

1.2 Need for the Project

1.2.1 There is a need to connect the proposed wind farms (Bankend Rig III and Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3) to the transmission grid in southern Scotland. This is to be done via a new wood pole 132kV OHL. When a wind farm developer applies for a connection via National Energy System Operator (NESO), within the Scottish Power Transmission (SPT) license area, SPT, as the transmission licence holder, is obliged to provide such a connection. As with all grid connections of this type, the initial premise is that these will be provided as an OHL, rather than as an underground cable.

1.2.2 In broad terms, the OHL will run between Redshaw Substation and the proposed Bankend Rig III Collector Substation via the provision of a connection to Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Substation near West Douglas. These connection points are illustrated on **Figure 1**.

1.3 Purpose of this Document

1.3.1 This Consultation Feedback Report includes a summary of the Round One consultation events undertaken to engage with local communities, as well as providing a summary of the consultation feedback received. The consultation period ran from 26 April to 26 May 2025 and included two public consultation events, as well as email consultation and a leaflet drop. The consultation related to the process of routeing and the identification of a preferred route option for the OHL. This Consultation Report should be read in conjunction with the Routeing and Consultation Document (RCD) which sets out the approach to routeing and the findings of the options appraisal work undertaken.

1.3.2 The comments raised will be considered in order to identify the 'Proposed Route' which will be the subject of the future environmental survey undertaken to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

1.4 Contents of the Report

1.4.1 This feedback report contains the following sections:

- **Section 1**: Introduction and Context;
- **Section 2**: The Routeing Methodology;
- **Section 3**: The Consultation Process and Findings; and
- **Section 4**: Next Steps.

02.
Routeing Methodology

2. The Routeing Methodology

2.1 Approach to Routeing Overhead Lines

2.1.1 SPEN aim to undertake routeing of OHLs with regard for the natural environment and the amenity of people living and working within an area, and in line with guidance on routeing contained within the Holford Rules. The Holford Rules are tried and tested and are still applicable to routeing today.

2.1.2 SPEN undergo routeing for OHLs via a sequential process, which takes account of the range of technical, environmental and economic constraints at a broad and detailed level and with regard to comprehensive consultation with relevant stakeholders and the public. In doing so, they are able to provide viable routes which address the foreseeable constraints of a given Study Area. The use of the 'Preferred Route' as a means for consultation at the pre-scoping stage ensures that comments are then evaluated and revisions made to the route in the identification of a 'Proposed Route' to be taken through the EIA process.

2.1.3 SPEN's approach to routeing OHLs is summarised within their document 'Approach to Routeing and Environmental Impact Assessment'[1]. The key diagram in terms of approach is provided on page 12 of that document:

[1] SP Energy Networks, Approach to Routeing and Environmental Impact Assessment (2020).

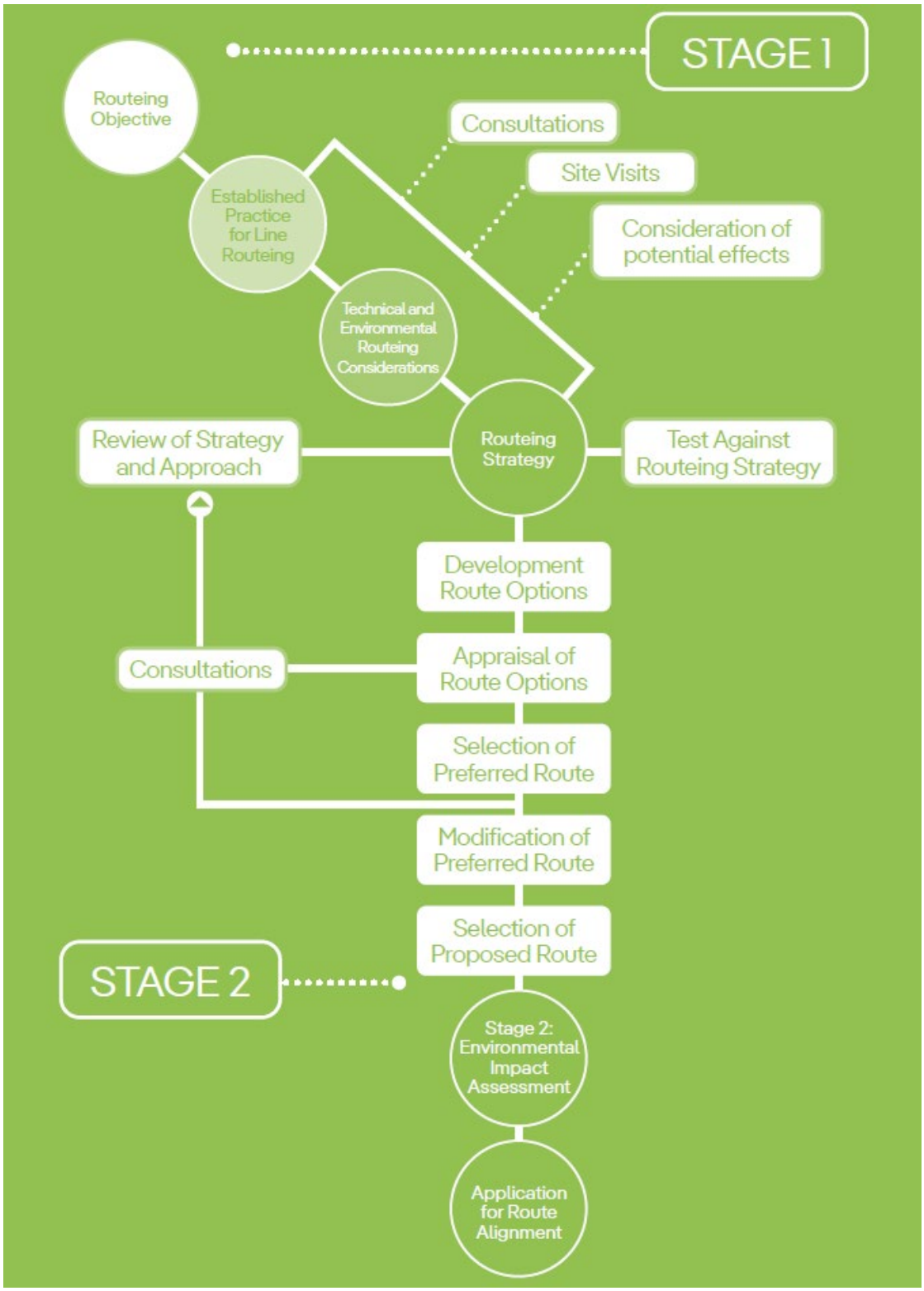


Image 2.1: SPEN's approach to Routeing and Environmental Assessment.

2.2 The Routeing Study Area

2.2.1 As shown on **Figure 1**, the Routeing Study Area (RSA) comprises a swathe of landscape that lies predominantly within South Lanarkshire but also containing a small part of East Ayrshire. The landscape is largely rural in nature, with only limited human habitation within the upland areas, and a greater focus of habitation along the A70 (Douglas), the M74 motorway corridor (Coalburn and Lesmahagow), and to the north around the A71 (Strathaven).

2.2.2 The RSA is roughly split into four main sub-areas:

1. Southern Area: The southern area comprises the area of moorland around the proposed Redshaw Substation, which is an elevated area with a number of wind farms and OHLs, and is near to the route of the M74 motorway;
2. Douglas Water Valley: The landscape then falls to the north into the valley of the Douglas Water, in which lies the town of Douglas and a lower lying riparian valley containing heritage features and road infrastructure;
3. Northern Area: The landscape then rises to the north and north-west, with numerous wind farms located within the historic coal mining area and commercial forestry areas to the north-west. The settlements of Coalburn and Lesmahagow lie in the eastern parts of the RSA towards the M74. This section of the RSA continues around the periphery of the higher ground towards Glengavel; and
4. Western Area: The western section of the RSA contains the forested and open areas around Glengavel Reservoir and areas of forestry containing wind farms. This is an elevated and topographically complex part of the RSA.

2.3 The Routeing Objective

2.3.1 In accordance with SPEN's approach to routeing, the Routeing Objective for the Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation OHL grid connection project is:

> *"To identify a technically feasible and economically viable route for a continuous 132kV overhead line connection, supported on wood poles from the proposed point of connection from Redshaw Substation to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation, including a tee off point to connect Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Wind Farm. This route should, on balance, cause the least disturbance to the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it."*

2.4 The Routeing Process Applied to this Project

2.4.1 A routeing methodology has been devised for this project, with due regard to the local landscape, the applicable Statutory Obligations and to achieve a balance between technical considerations and environmental protection. The routeing methodology seeks to use the broad principles of the Holford Rules in association with the environmental parameters that are presented within the RSA.

2.4.2 The routeing methodology is essentially a number of sequential steps, each of which looks to suggest routeing options or strategies based upon the distribution of environmental and technical constraints presented, and the connection required. This is a hierarchical approach, which has been adopted to offer greatest protection to those most valued environmental receptors and areas of highest amenity value, whilst also offering a more modest, yet important level of protection to those which are considered less sensitive.

2.4.3 The key stages of the methodology are as follows:

- Stage 1: Identification of RSA and Constraints Analysis;
- Stage 2: Identification of Primary Route Corridor (PRC);
- Stage 3: Identification and Appraisal of the Detailed Route Options;
- Stage 4: Identification and Appraisal of the Preferred Route;
- Stage 5: Consultation and Refinement; and
- Stage 6: Identification of Proposed Route.

03. Consultation Process and Findings

3. Consultation Process and Findings

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This section sets out a description of the public consultation undertaken to date and outlines the methods of consultation. It also provides an update on feedback received during the consultation period.

3.1.2 In line with the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) Good Practice Guidance (2022), SPEN propose to carry out two rounds of consultation with stakeholders and the public prior to submitting any future planning application. The public consultation considered in this report is the first round.

3.2 Public Consultation Events

3.2.1 SPEN typically undertake public consultation events in locations near the proposed grid connections in order to consult with those likely to be most affected. Two public consultation events were undertaken on subsequent days in April and May 2025, as per **Table 3.1**. The events were held in Sandford to cover the northern parts of the Preferred Route, and Douglas to capture the southern parts of the Preferred Route.

Table 3.1: Consultation Event Details

Date	Location
Wednesday 30 April 2025, 2pm to 7pm	Sandford Village Hall, Strathaven Road, **Sandford**, Strathaven, ML10 6PE
Thursday 01 May 2025, 1.30pm to 6.30pm	St Brides Centre, Braehead, **Douglas**, Lanark, ML11 0PT

3.2.2 The consultation events were advertised in a number of ways, including in a local newspaper, through leaflet drops, via email and via the use of the SPEN project-specific website. Specifics of this advertisement are as follows:

1. The newspaper advert (**Appendix 1**) was included within the Carluke and Lanark Gazette in print and online on 16 and 23 April 2025, approximately two weeks prior to the events;
2. The Public Consultation Leaflet (**Appendix 2**) was sent to all private residential addresses within 1km of the Preferred Route Corridor the week commencing 14 April 2025, approximately two weeks prior to the event; and
3. SPEN's Land Team contacted each landowner whose land the Preferred Route Corridor crossed in the weeks leading up to the consultation events.

3.2.3 For the consultation events, SPEN produced eight information boards which provided details of the Proposed Development, the approach to routeing and the rationale behind the preferred route

option selected. It also showed route options that were discounted at this stage. The consultation boards (**Appendix 3**) were as follows:

1. Welcome;
2. Who are SP Energy Networks;
3. The Proposal;
4. The Routeing Process;
5. Routeing Considerations;
6. Routeing Options;
7. The Preferred Route; and
8. Have Your Say.

3.2.4 The events were attended by various members of the SPEN team, including the Environmental Planner, Land Officer, Project Manager and the Community Liaison Officer; and also representatives of the Environmental Consultant Team from EDP and Stantec. These representatives were able to answer queries on the routeing process, the potential environmental effects and SPEN's requirements under the Electricity Act. A number of photographs of the events, and the consultation boards, are provided at **Image 3.1** to **Image 3.4**.

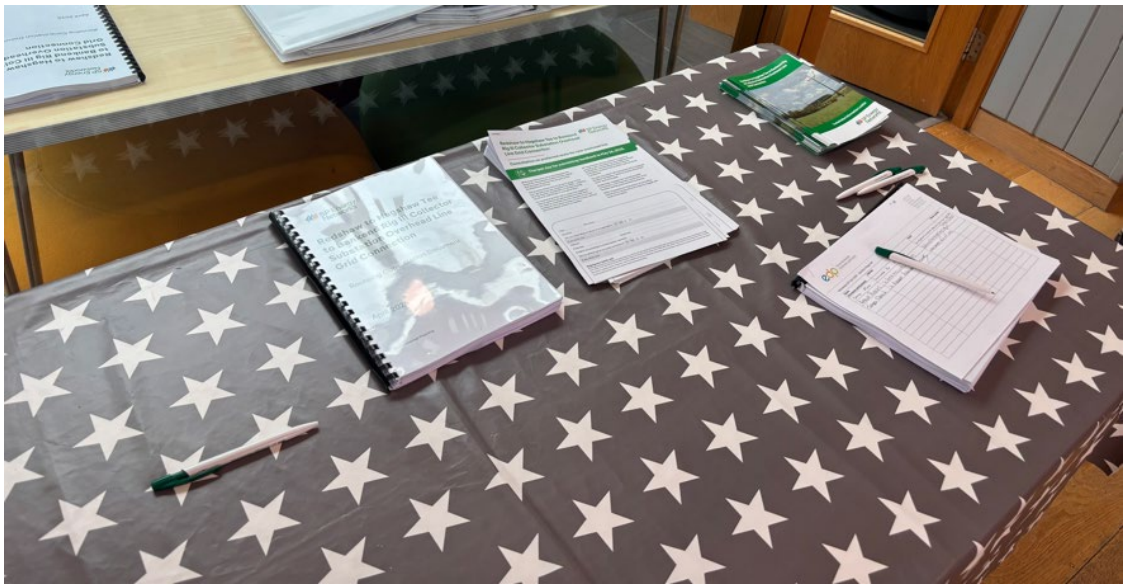


Image 3.1: Example of sign in sheet, feedback forms and information available at Douglas.

Image 3.2: Consultation Boards in place in Douglas.

Image 3.3 Consultation Boards in place in Sandford.

Image 3.4: Public attendance at Sandford.

3.3 Feedback Channels

3.3.1 Attendees were able to:

- Provide feedback, or ask questions, directly with the project team; and/or
- Provide feedback via a feedback form in hard copy or online via the project website.

3.3.2 The consultation portal was available and the consultation period open from 21 April 2025 until Monday 26 May 2025 at midnight.

3.3.3 The Feedback Forms asked specific questions of the public, which are tried and tested by SPEN for consultations of this kind. The questions asked are as follows:

Q1: Do you have any comments on our preferred route;

Q2: Are there any other factors you would like us to consider;

Q3: How did you find out about the project and the consultation; and

Q4: Please give us your views about the consultation process.

3.3.4 The following contact information was provided via the consultation boards, the leaflet and at the event.

Redshaw to Bankend Rig Project Manager
Land and Planning Team
SP Energy Networks
55 Fullarton Drive
Glasgow
G32 8FA

3.3.5 Project email address:

RedshawToBankendRig@spenergynetworks.co.uk

3.3.6 Project website:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/redshaw_to_bankend_rig.aspx

3.4 Statutory and Non-statutory Stakeholder Consultation

3.4.1 An email was sent to a variety of Statutory and Non-statutory Consultees on 16 April 2025, as set out in **Table 3.2**. This was to seek feedback, but also to advise of the upcoming consultation events.

Table 3.2: Consultees Included in this Consultation Process

Consultee Name
Statutory Consultees
South Lanarkshire Council
Historic Environment Scotland
Nature Scot
SEPA
Scottish Forestry
Internal Scottish Government Advisors
East Ayrshire Council
Transport Scotland
The Coal Authority
Community/Councils
Sandford/Upper Avondale
Douglas

Consultee Name
Coalburn
Lesmahagow
Non-statutory
Fisheries Management Scotland
Scottish Water
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Scottish Wild Land Group
West of Scotland Archaeology Service
British Horse Society
BT
Civil Aviation Authority
Defence Infrastructure Organisations
Scottish Badgers
Game and Wildlife Conversation Trust
Garden History Association
John Muir Trust
National Farmers Union of Scotland
NATS Safeguarding
National Trust for Scotland
Network Rail
Ramblers Association (Scotland)
Red Squirrels in Scotland
Scottish Outdoor Access Network (SOAN)
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays)
Sustrains Scotland
Crown Estate Scotland
The Woodland Trust
Visit Scotland

Consultee Name
RSPB
Ward Councillors for.
Clydesdale South
Avondale and Stonehouse
MPs for.
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale
East Kilbride and Strathaven
MSPs for.
South Scotland

3.5 Key Consultation Feedback

Consultation Event Responses

3.5.1 At the first consultation event in Sandford, 14 people signed, although there were a number of other attendees who did not leave their details. At the second consultation event in Douglas, three people signed in, although again additional people attended but did not leave their details.

3.5.2 The main issues raised at the event were as follows:

- Impacts of the OHL connection on personal land ownership;
- Impacts on visual amenity;
- Questioning the need for an overhead option rather than putting the connection underground;
- Questions on the routeing generally, and why the option selected was the preferred option;
- Whether compensation is to be paid to those landowners affected by the OHL;
- Whether compensation was available to the local population via the community councils;
- Concern over this area of Scotland being continually impacted by development, whether this was historic coal mining or wind turbine development; and
- Will the OHL result in health impacts (through exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)).

3.5.3 The Project Team attending the events were able to discuss these issues with the members of the public who raised them. They were also pointed towards other sources of information, such as published documents on EMF and the comparative costs of OHLs versus underground cables.

Written Responses

3.5.4 A single written response was provided, this being from a landowner potentially affected by the OHL. Concerns raised included the proximity to residential dwellings; the potential impact on water supplies; the visual impact; Electromagnetic Fields; property valuation, impacts on wildlife and livestock; and human health. This consultee will be kept abreast of ongoing consultations and project progress.

Email Responses

3.5.5 A small number of responses were received via email (less than five), either as a result of the emails sent to Statutory and Non-statutory Consultees, or via direct contact following the leaflet drop or consultation events. A summary of the emails received, and the response provided by SPEN is provided below:

1. DEWARS Whisky facility. This potentially affected landowner contacted SPEN via the email, setting out concerns regarding the OHL potentially affecting the operation of their facility at Coalburn. A detailed response followed the initial response, which contained additional information on the future plans for the facility, and how the Preferred Route might impact this. The response provided an indication of a revised section of routeing south of the existing facility, and this is being considered as part of the evolution of the Proposed Route;
2. Project Developers of Hawkwood and Bankend Rig Wind Farms. The developers of these wind farms, which are located near to the Bankend Rig Collector substation, suggested an alternative section of routeing which runs westwards from Dunside Reservoir, south-west, to the Collector Substation location. A response was made to these developers setting out the constraints affecting this area, and the reasons the area was discounted. These constraints included ecological constraints, technical constraints (turbine offsets), elevation constraints and peat constraints;
3. Historic Environment Scotland and BT responded, although raised no comment or objection to the routeing or proposal at this stage; and
4. NatureScot responded following the consultation made via their online system. Their response highlighted the need for detailed ecological and protected area assessments for the proposed OHL route. They noted that ecological surveys should cover protected species, habitats (peatland, woodland, wetlands), and landscape and visual impacts. Bird surveys were considered a priority, particularly for breeding and wintering species such as black grouse, hen harrier, golden plover, peregrine, merlin, and short-eared owl, with at least one year of survey effort typically required. Black grouse surveys were strongly recommended due to the species' national significance and collision risks from OHLs.
5. They suggested that where the route lies within 2km of the Muirkirk & North Lowther Uplands SPA, a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) will likely be required to assess potential impacts, including collision risk and loss of foraging habitat. Proximity to the Red Moss SAC may also trigger an HRA, depending on route alignment and construction methods. They

noted that undergrounding sections could reduce collision risks but may raise other ecological concerns.

6. They suggested that environmental assessments should address potential effects on nearby designated sites, including the Muirkirk Uplands SSSI, Red Moss SAC and SSSI, Blood Moss & Slot Burn SSSI, and Birkenhead Burn SSSI. Engagement with specialist groups, such as the South Strathclyde Raptor Study Group, and review of existing wind farm survey data are recommended to strengthen the evidence base.

Online Responses

3.5.6 A total of three online consultation forms were received, from people living locally to the Preferred Route. Comments received followed similar themes to those above, but specifically mentioned the following:

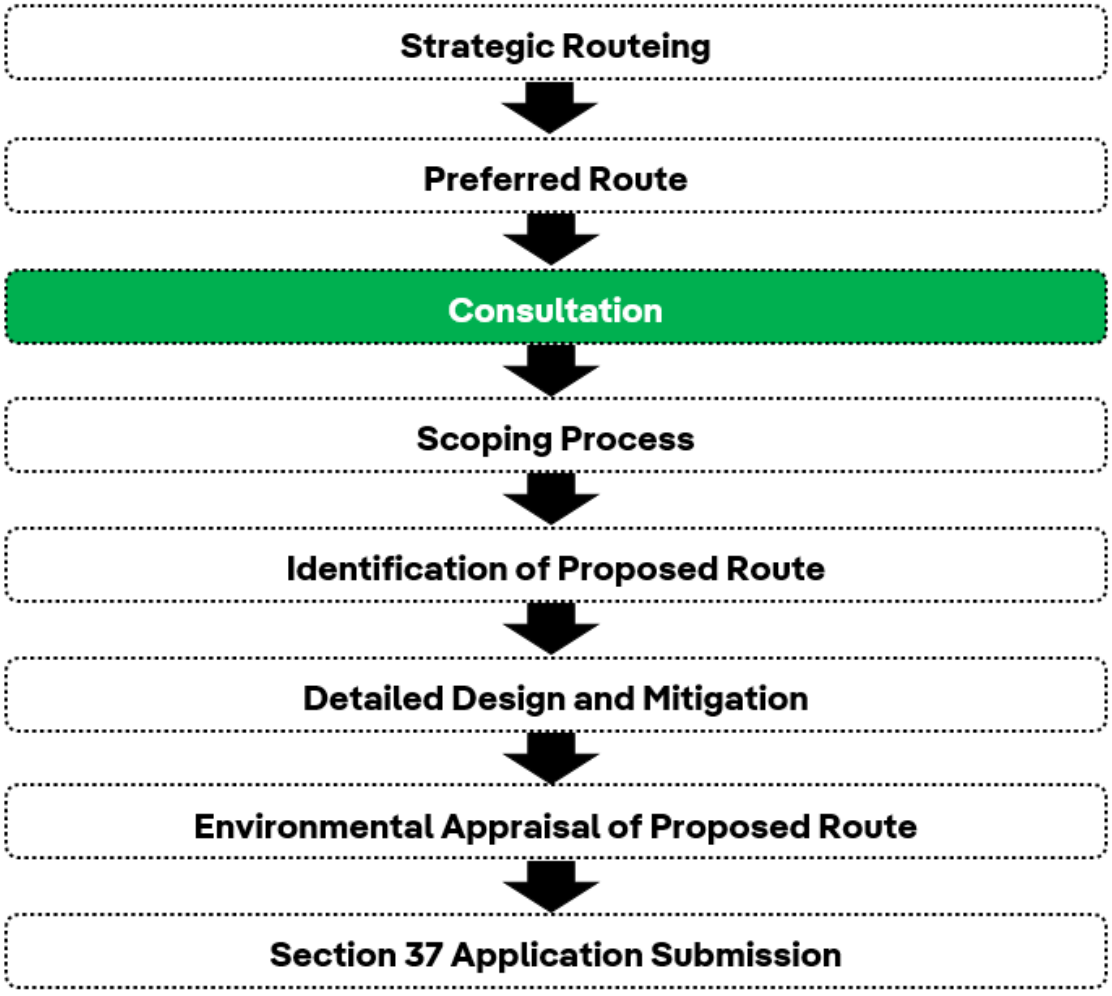
1. Environmental impact, including impact on wildlife and protected species, including birds and deer;
2. Visual amenity and poor aesthetics;
3. Residential proximity, and cumulative impacts with turbines;
4. Construction disruption;
5. Impacts upon livestock;
6. Questioning whether the cables should run underground;
7. Private water supply security;
8. Potential impacts on roads and traffic congestion;
9. Concerns around contractor access and potential damage by operatives; and
10. Concerns around the form of consultation and the consultation material provided.

04.
Next Steps

4. Next Steps

4.1.1 Following receipt of a request to connect the proposed Bankend Rig III Collector Substation and Hagshaw Phase 3 Repowering Wind Farm Developments to the electricity transmission system, via the Redshaw Substation, SPEN (on behalf of SPT) have identified and assessed a number of possible route options for the grid connection. This process has followed SPEN's Approach to Routeing and follows the Holford Rules of best practice to avoid areas of highest or high amenity value where possible. Moreover, this process considers existing landform, topography and vegetation in order to reduce landscape and visual effects.

4.1.2 Through the identification and assessment process, a Preferred Route option has been identified and presented to members of the public and landowners potentially affected by the route. Feedback has been requested on the process and outcomes, and this feedback is as reported within this report and will be fed into the ongoing design development process, and in particular the identification of the Proposed Route. This design development will also be informed by further surveys, assessments and consultation as required. The flow diagram below illustrates this process of route identification, consultation and assessment, and identifies the stage reached to date.



4.2 The Next Stage: Identification of Proposed Route

4.2.1 At the conclusion of this consultation process, a Proposed Route will be selected by SPEN after consideration of:

- All the comments and responses made by statutory and other interested parties during the consultation process;
- The appraisal of options considered; and
- Having regard to all other matters SPEN consider relevant.

4.2.2 Following this, SPEN will continue through a voluntary EIA process and will issue a Scoping Request to the Scottish Ministers under Regulation 7 of the Electricity Works (EIA) (Scotland) Regulations 2000, as amended 2008, for a Scoping Opinion on the information to be included within the EIA Report. The Scoping Request will set out the proposed structure and content of the EIA Report and identify the potential effects on the environment of the Proposed Route.

4.2.3 Either following the receipt of a Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Ministers, or as part of the wider environmental appraisal process, further detailed studies will be undertaken to define the Proposed Route. Following further detailed environmental and technical assessment; it may identify local deviations from the Proposed Routes in order to mitigate local effects. An EIAwill be undertaken and a Section 37 application made to the Scottish Ministers.

4.3 Future Consultation

4.3.1 A subsequent round of consultation will take place to provide an additional opportunity engage the community on the Proposed Route alignment and to feedback on the Round One consultation responses received. This will be undertaken as part of the future development of the proposal and in line with the surveys and assessment undertaken as part of the EIA process. In this way, SPEN are able to feedback on the potential likely impacts and the detailed design of the proposals.

A1.
Consultation Newspaper Advert

5. Appendix 1 – Consultation Newspaper Advert

NEWS

Craig Smith. Image: Police Scotland

Teacher is sent down

John A. MacInnes
john.macinnes@carlukegazette.co.uk

A former drama teacher who grossly abused his position of trust by sexually abusing three female pupils has been jailed.

Craig Smith previously pleaded guilty to three charges at Glasgow Sheriff Court on 21 March 2025.

The 43-year-old admitted abusing the girls by intentionally engaging in sexual activity with two victims and sending messages of a sexual nature to a third child.

The offences took place between 2015 and 2018 while Smith was employed at a high school in South Lanarkshire.

Smith began messaging the first victim on Facebook as he was apparently concerned for her welfare as she suffered from panic attacks.

The messages soon became inappropriate with explicit content shared. Smith then engaged in sexual contact with the abused child at the school.

Smith messaged the second victim on social media before sexually abusing her on school grounds.

An investigation was launched in 2018 after the accused sent a 14-year-old pupil a sexualised message on Facebook.

A fellow teacher became aware of the incident and reported it to the head teacher and police were then contacted.

On 8 April 2025, at Glasgow Sheriff Court, Smith was jailed for two years and three months.

His name has been added to the sex offenders register.

Fraser Gibson, Procurator Fiscal for Glasgow and Strathkelvin, said: "Craig Smith is a predatory individual who used his position of trust to target vulnerable young girls.

"These children should have been safe under his care but were instead subjected to appalling sexual abuse.

"This prosecution was made possible thanks to the victims reporting their experiences, ensuring Smith has been held accountable for his actions while protecting others from harm.

"I would urge anyone who has experienced similar offending to come forward and report it.

"You will be listened to and supported as we seek to secure justice using all the tools at our disposal."

Police Scotland Detective Sergeant Ruth Whyte added: "We would like to thank the victims of Craig Smith for coming forward and hope that this sentencing allows them to move forward with their lives.

"Smith used his position to take advantage of teenage girls and will now face the outcome of these deplorable actions and as well as being on the sex offender's register.

"I would urge anyone who is the victim of sexual abuse to come forward and speak to us, regardless of the passage of time. All reports are thoroughly investigated, and we have specially trained officers and partner agencies to provide support.

"Please call us on 101 or you can report a crime anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Smith pleaded guilty to the three separate charges under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009 S42.

Cost of living is affecting pets

Struggling pet owners across Scotland have been thrown a lifeline by the Scottish SPCA's Pet Aid service, which has helped thousands keep their beloved animals despite financial hardship, new statistics show.

With the cost of living crisis continuing to hit families hard, many owners have faced the heartbreaking reality of choosing between feeding themselves or their pets, and many people are also struggling with their pets' behaviour or health. Last year alone, calls to the charity's help line by members of the public about giving up their pets increased by 24%.

Pet Aid was launched in 2023 to help keep pets and people together, stopping problems from spiralling and preventing animals needing to come into the charity's care unnecessarily.

New figures now reveal that the Pet Aid service has dished out 66,895 meals for pets in 2024 alone – an average of 183 meals every single day, keeping animals from going hungry and helping people keep their much-loved pets.

Professor Jo Williams, who led the research, said: "Pet Aid has enabled people to keep and look after their much-loved pets in times of financial crisis, when the loving support of pets is needed for human wellbeing. It has meant people and pets can stay together and avoided the grief that owners and their children experience when they lose a loved family pet."

In South Lanarkshire, the service responded to 2,822 reports of animals in need, and found 348 animals their forever home.

Village Day

Can you help save Tinto's Village Day?

At a meeting last week, four of the five committee members confirmed they'll be stepping down after the 2025 event - and with no one else currently in place to carry it forward, the future of Tinto Village Day is uncertain.

"This event brings the community together with a pet show, fancy dress, inflatables, tug of war, stalls, food, live music, and so much more. It's free, it's fun, and it's something people of all ages look forward to every year.

But right now, without new volunteers stepping up, 2025 could be the last Village Day.

It doesn't take a huge amount of time - just a few more hands, ideas and a bit of community spirit to make it happen. If you enjoy Village Day, now's the time to get involved.

Message them on https://www.facebook.com/tintovillageday

A2.
Consultation Leaflet

6. Appendix 2 – Consultation Leaflet

We want to hear your views

Our consultation period will run **between Monday 21st April and Monday 26th May 2025.** Please submit any comments to us by **midnight on Monday 26th May 2025.** Following this date, the information will remain accessible online and available to download.

Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation Overhead Line Grid Connection

Please find details below on how to get in touch.

Visit our website:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/redshaw_to_bankend_rig.aspx

Email our Project Manager:

RedshawToBankendRig@spenergynetworks.co.uk

Attend one of our Public Consultation Events:

Wednesday 30th April (2pm to 7pm)	Thursday 1st May (1:30pm to 6:30pm)
Sandford Village Hall Strathaven Road Sandford Strathaven ML10 6PE	St Bride's Centre, Braehead Douglas Lanark ML11 0PT

By Post:

Redshaw to Bankend Rig Project Manager, Land and Planning Team, SP Energy Networks, 55 Fullarton Drive, Glasgow, G32 8FA.

Consultation Information Leaflet

SP Energy Networks

What happens next?

Your comments will be reviewed and fed into the detailed design with alignment for the new OHL, which will be the subject of the Section 37 application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit. The comments will also be collated into a report, which will be made publicly available on SP Energy Networks website.

- Detailed Design
- Scoping
- EIA and 2nd Consultation
- Section 37 Application

The Project

The **Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector substation Overhead Line Grid Connection Project** involves a 132 kilovolt (kV) overhead line (OHL) supported on wood poles. This will connect Redshaw Substation to the Bankend Rig III Collector substation via a connection to Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 in the South Lanarkshire Council area.

The connection is required to allow the proposed Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Wind Farm and Bankend Rig III Wind Farm to connect into the electricity network if approved. Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) has a legal duty to keep its network up-to-date to safeguard electricity supplies. SPEN also has a duty to provide a connection for new generation to the wider electricity transmission network.

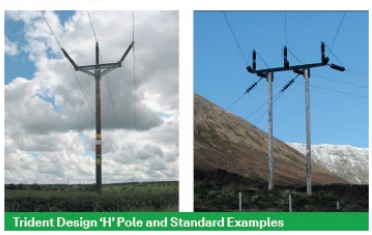
What will the OHL look like?

The proposed OHL will be supported by trident wood poles with galvanised steelwork cross arms supporting aluminium conductors (wires) on insulators. These are suitable for supporting a single circuit line operating at 132kV.

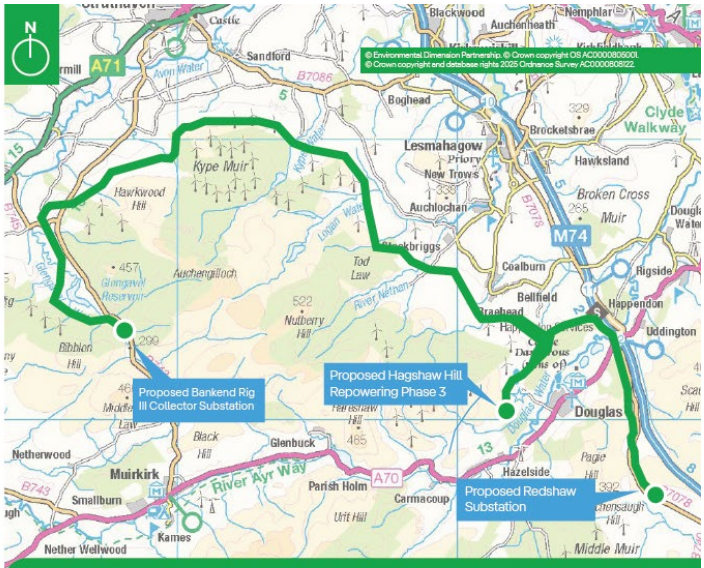
Wood poles are dark brown in colour when newly constructed and weather over the years to a light grey. They have a standard height above ground of approximately 15m, but these can be increased or reduced as required where circumstances dictate e.g. over elevated land, structures or features.

The distance between wood poles will average between 80m and 120m, but can be increased if there is a requirement to span a larger distance due to the presence of a feature in the landscape, such as a river or loch.

The precise pole configuration, height and span will be determined following a detailed review of the engineering and technical requirements for the connection.



Trident Design 'H' Pole and Standard Examples



Our Preferred Route

SPEN have been working with independent environmental consultants to identify options for potential routes for the proposed overhead line.

Our objective is to identify a route for the overhead line 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 in it.

SPEN are committed to engaging with stakeholders, including local communities, through the consultation process, and your feedback will be used to review the routeing findings and inform the next steps.

Our **Preferred Route** is shown in **green** above.

A3.
Consultation Boards

7. Appendix 3 – Consultation Boards

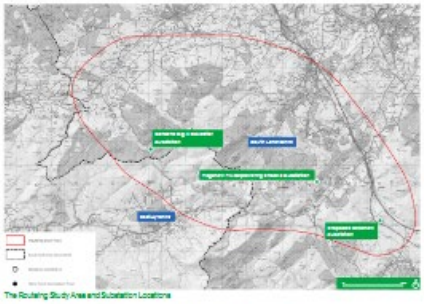
01.
Welcome

Welcome to our consultation event!

We are pleased to welcome you to this consultation event and introduce our proposals to construct a single circuit 132 kV/ or (400 kV) overhead line carried on wood poles from the Earlsand Rig III Collector and Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Substations to the proposed Redrain Substation.

The purpose of this event is to provide you with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask questions and provide us with feedback on the preferred route corridor.

Following this consultation, the proposed route will be finalised and will be carried forward to subsequent stages, including the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the application for consent.



The Routeing Study Area and Substation Locations

The need for the proposed development

Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) received a request to provide a grid connection to the proposed Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Wind Farm and Earlsand Rig III Wind Farm to connect into the electricity network if approved.

SPEN has a legal duty to keep its network up-to-date to safeguard electricity supplies. SPEN also has a duty to provide a connection for new generation to the wider electricity transmission network.

SP Energy Networks

02.
Who are SP Energy Networks?

We are SP Energy Networks. As a Distribution and Transmission Network Operator we keep electricity flowing to homes and businesses throughout Central and Southern Scotland, North Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire and North Shropshire.

These businesses are 'asset-owner' companies holding the regulated assets and Electricity Transmission and Distribution licenses of Scottish Power. As part of this, SP Energy Networks operates, maintains and develops the network of cables, overhead lines and substations which transport electricity to connected homes and businesses in Southern and Central Scotland.

Our three regulated electricity network businesses are:

1. SP Transmission PLC (SPT).
2. SP Distribution PLC (SPD).
3. SP Manweb PLC (SPM).

Under Section 9 of the Electricity Act 1989, SP Energy Networks has a legal duty to safeguard electricity supplies by keeping its network up to date and to enable new connections for the generation and supply of electricity.

SP Energy Networks

03.
The Proposal

The Redanew to Hagshaw Tee to Berkeland Rig II Collector substation Overhead Line Grid Connection Project involves a 132 kV overhead line (OHL) supported on wood poles. This will connect Redanew Substation to the Berkeland Rig II Collector Substation via a connection to Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Substation in the South Lanarkshire Council area.

This consultation exercise relates to the OHL elements of the connection only.

Whilst SPEN will be providing the collector substation at Berkeland Rig II, they will be seeking consent for this via a separate Town and Country planning application to South Lanarkshire council in near future.

The Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Substation will be provided by the developer of that wind farm and the detail and location of this does not form part of this consultation.

What will the overhead line look like?

The wood pole OHL is proposed to be supported with galvanised steelwork cross arms supporting aluminium conductors on insulators. These are suitable for supporting single circuit lines operating at 132 kV.

Whilst wood poles have a standard height above ground of 13m, these can be extended or reduced in height, as required.

Pole heights may require to be increased where circumstances dictate, e.g. over elevated land, structures or features.

The distance between wood poles will average between 80m to 120m, but can be increased if there is a requirement to span a larger distance due to the presence of a feature in the landscape, such as a river or loch.

The precise pole configuration, height and span will be determined after a detailed line design. The OHL design has been determined following a detailed review of the engineering and technical requirements for the connection.

The photographs show a Trident 'H' pole and typical Trident wood pole structure.

Trident wood pole examples

04.
The Routeing Process

SP Energy Networks has been working to identify potential route options for the OHL connection. The project has gone through an iterative routeing process to identify a technically feasible and economically viable single circuit 132 kV OHL grid connection between Redanew Substation and the proposed Berkeland Rig II Collector Substation via providing a connection to Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3 Wind Farm Substation.

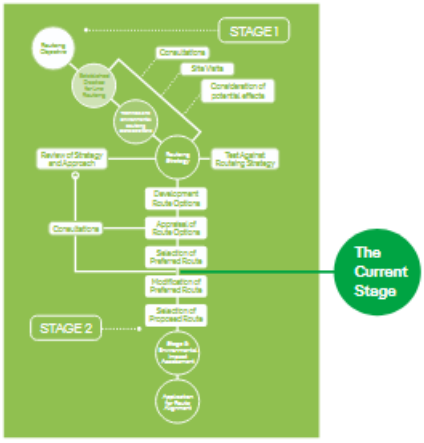
This solution causes, on balance, least disturbance to the environment of the Study Area and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it.

The first step was the identification of a Study Area and within this the identification of routeing considerations. These take into account areas of the highest or high environmental value or interest, local considerations and likely effects on the environment, including visual amenity and landscape character. The information gathered formed a picture of the different constraints and opportunities within the Study Area.

Secondly a routeing strategy was developed to take into account the technical and environmental routeing considerations identified within the Study Area.

This was followed by the identification, assessment and refinement of route options based on routeing considerations. For example, those which avoid and/or make best use of routeing constraints and opportunities, such as avoiding designated sites or settlements, or making use of landform or landscape features to prevent sky lining (i.e. where the OHL would be seen above the landform). Through this iterative process route options may be refined or rejected with the aim of identifying a preferred route option which best meets the project objective.

The Key Stages of the Routeing Process

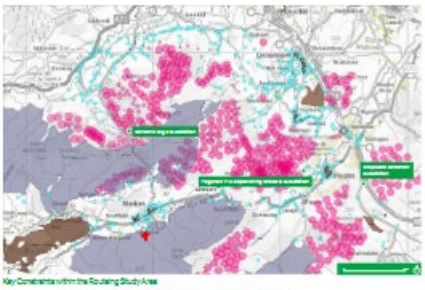


SP Energy Networks

05.
Routeing Considerations

To identify and assess the route options, SPT's statutory duties under the Electricity Act 1989 require a balance between the Environmental, Technical and Economic considerations.

Duties imposed by Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 requires that the proposed connection is economically viable. SP Energy Network's proven choice for an economic grid connection takes the form of an OHL involves ensuring the directness of route options, and avoids areas where technical difficulty or compensatory schemes would render the connection uneconomical.



Key Constraints within the Routeing Study Area

Technical Considerations

Technical considerations are a matter of SP Energy Network's ability to build, operate and maintain an OHL within the route options identified. For example, taking into account existing electricity transmission or distribution infrastructure, topography, side slope gradients, altitude, ground conditions and accessibility.

Environmental Considerations

SPT is subject to duties under Schedule 9 of the Act:

"(a) 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 architecture, historic or archaeological interest; and (b) 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."

When considering environmental factors, the approach to routeing is sequential in that the most important environmental constraints are considered first, followed by those of lesser and reducing importance. The range of environmental factors considered includes the following:

- Landscape & visual matters, including sensitive landscapes and effects on landscape character.
- Ecological factors – including here nationally and internationally important designations.
- Ornithological factors, including breeding and wintering birds and raptors.
- Archaeological and cultural heritage assets, including above and below-ground assets.
- Hydrological & geological factors, private water supplies, watercourses, waterbodies & habitats.
- Land uses including mineral operations, agriculture and forestry.
- Buffer zones to private residences.
- Recreation and tourism factors, including locally valued facilities.
- Traffic and transport matters, including access provision and road crossings.

Taking this approach has ensured that areas of high value amenity have been entirely avoided and routed to ensure that the designations are not significantly affected. Particular regard was taken to the Muirkirk Uplands Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands Special Protection Area (SPA), which cover a large proportion of the central parts of the Routeing Study Area.

Additional ecological sites were considered, including SSSIs and ancient woodlands, as were heritage constraints including the area around Douglas Castle, listed buildings and scheduled monuments. Residents were avoided through buffers, whilst other environmental factors including watercourses and flood zones informed the routeing process.

06.
Routeing Options

Primary Route Corridor

Based upon the areas of highest environmental value identified in the previous section and the distribution of landscape and other features, alongside technical and economic considerations, there is only a single high level route corridor option available.

This is identified as the Primary Route Corridor (PRC) on the plan below.

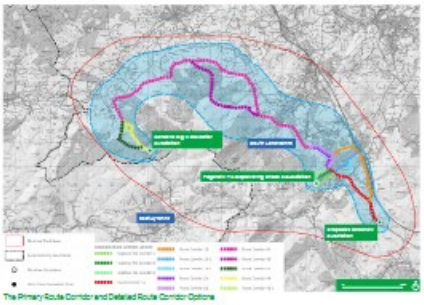
Whilst a wide range of technical, economic and environmental constraints were considered at this stage, the location of the Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands SPA and the Muirkirk Uplands SSSI represent key constraints due to their sensitivity and the route corridors avoid these areas.

Detailed Route Corridor Options

Having defined the range of high level route corridors within which the connection could be located, it was necessary to undertake a more detailed appraisal process and to consider more detailed route corridors. The detailed route options identified on the plan below have been reviewed in light of the following environmental and technical considerations:

- Landscape quality.
- Visual amenity.
- Residential amenity.
- Potential route length.
- Environmental designations.
- Land use and forestry.
- Technical constraints.
- Cultural constraints.

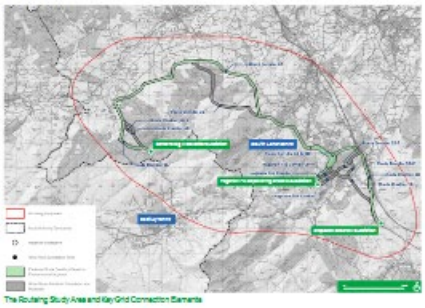
Throughout the appraisal process, those parts of the Holford Rules which are applicable to the different appraisal principles are encompassed within the general review.



The Primary Route Corridor and Detailed Route Corridor Options

07.
The Preferred Route

The Preferred Route corridor was identified following a systematic process of addressing in greater detail the range of technical, environmental and economic constraints within the study area and through the process described on the previous boards. It has also taken account of the guidance provided by the Holford Rules (and their appendices) and the routeing strategy identified for use on this project.



The Routeing Study Area and Key Grid Connection Elements

The Preferred Route Alignment

The Preferred Route Corridor for the proposed grid connection will include the following sections, as illustrated on the plan above:

- Section 1B.
- Section 2A or 2B.
- Hagshaw Tee Option 3.
- Section 3A.
- Section 4A.

The route runs north from the Redshaw substation, before passing through the former forest area at Malmerk. It then crosses the A70 before running broadly parallel with the M74 and crossing the Douglas Water, in doing so avoiding Douglas Castle and its ornamental grounds, and the settlement of Douglas.

Turning south-westwards the route runs towards and past Portal Hill, avoiding the edge of ancient woodland here. The Hagshaw Tee continues south-westwards to the south of the wind farms, whilst the main route heads north towards Strathaven. South of Strathaven the route turns westwards towards Glengavel. The final section of the route runs to the west of Glengavel Reservoir before terminating in the forest at Earlsend Rig II Collector Substation.

The total length of the Preferred Route at this point is c.35km for the main route and 3km for the Hagshaw Tee. This route is to be adopted as the Preferred Route for the purposes of consultation and until such time as this is revised to form the Proposed Route.

Next Steps...

This public consultation event forms part of the wider consultation phase of the project. During this phase the Preferred Route will be subject to consultation across the range of statutory and non-statutory consultees, members of the public and local communities.

Comments made during this process will be considered in the identification of the 'Proposed Route', which will then be appraised as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

08.
Have your say

Involving local people in the project is extremely important to us. By talking to you we are able to better understand the issues and your concerns and are more able to address these concerns in the delivery of the project. Views of people from the local area really do count and will help inform the next stages in our decision making.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to help us finalise the proposed route option that best balances technical, economic and environmental issues.

You can provide your feedback by the following channels:

Email via:

RedshawToEarlsendRig@spenergynetworks.co.uk

Write to:
Redshaw to Earlsend Rig Project Manager
Land and Planning Team
SP Energy Networks
55 Fullarton Drive
Glasgow
G33 1RA

Telephone: 0738 4 45139

The consultation will be live for four weeks between Monday 21st April and Monday 26th May 2025, however the information will remain accessible online at the website. Please submit any comments by midnight on Monday 26th May 2025.

Please note that comments made in response to this consultation are not representations to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit. When the Section 37 application is submitted there will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit as part of the planning process.

We look forward to any comments you may have, and thank you very much for your time and for engaging with our consultation.

A4.
Feedback Form

8. Appendix 4 – Consultation Feedback Form

Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation Overhead Line Grid Connection

Consultation on preferred route for new overhead line

The last day for submitting feedback is May 26, 2025.

SP Energy Networks owns and manages the electricity transmission system across central and southern Scotland. We are part of the ScottishPower Group.

The Scottish Government has set a target of Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 – meaning that Scotland's contribution to climate change would end, definitively, in one generation.

For Scotland and the UK to meet their targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero, we need to increase network capacity so we can transport more green energy to our homes, schools and businesses, where it is needed.

SP Transmission plc has received a request to provide a grid connection for the Hagshaw Phase 3 Wind Farm and the Bankend Rig Collector Substation, located in the southern parts of South Lanarkshire.

The grid connection will commence at the proposed Redshaw Substation, which is located circa 4.5km south-east of Douglas.

Stakeholder engagement, including public involvement, is an important component of the Scottish planning and consenting process.

SPEN recognises the importance of consulting effectively on proposals and is keen to engage with local communities.

Title: ..... First name: .....

Surname: .....

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation: ❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes, which one: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: ..... Telephone: .....

Email (if you would like to receive project updates): .....

Did you attend one of our public exhibitions? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes, which one? .....

Keeping your details safe

SP Energy Networks is committed to respecting your privacy and will comply with all applicable data protection and privacy laws. We're consulting you to get your views on the Spirebush Renewable Energy Project, so we may need to share your information with certain other bodies for the purposes of the consultation and for creating reports. These are: other ScottishPower Group companies; third party service providers, contractors or advisors who provide services to us; the Scottish Government; and relevant local planning authorities.

More information

More information about the project and the consultation process can be found in the project leaflet and the Routeing and Consultation Document, which are both available on the consultation website:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/redshaw_to_bankend_rig.aspx

You can submit your comments in a number of ways.

1. Complete this feedback form and return it to us by post:

Redshaw to Bankend Rig Project Manager
Land and Planning Team
SP Energy Networks
55 Fullarton Drive
Glasgow
G32 8FA

2. Complete the online version of the form on our website:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/redshaw_to_bankend_rig.aspx

3. Email us your comments at:

RedshawToBankendRig@spenergynetworks.co.uk

What we are consulting on

This is our first public consultation on the project. In this consultation, we'd like to know:

- Your views on our preferred route;
- If you have comments about any of the alternative routes we considered: and
- Any other factors you would like us to consider.

We would particularly like to hear your views on your local area e.g. areas you use for recreation, local environmental features you would like us to consider, and any plans you may have to build anything along the route.

We will publish a report of the first round of public consultation in the coming months and give you another chance to comment on the detailed proposal as the project develops.

Q1. Do you have any comments on our preferred route?

Q2. Any other factors you would like us to consider?

Q3. How did you find out about the project and the consultation?

❑ Advert ❑ Media ❑ Letter ❑ Leaflet ❑ Poster ❑ Website ❑ Word of mouth

❑ Social media Other, please specify: .....

Q4. Please give us your views about the consultation process

Thank you

Please return the completed form to us no later than May 26, 2025.

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authority. If we do make an application for development consent in future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.

A5. Figures

9. Appendix 5 – Figures Supporting this Document

9.1.1 The following figures are provided in support of this Routeing Consultation Document.

Figure 1: Routeing Study Area

(edp8565_d001e 04 April 2025 VMS/MWi)

East Renfrewshire

South Lanarkshire

East Ayrshire

Bankend Rig III

Hagshaw Hill Repowering Phase 3

Redshaw Substation

N

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

Routeing Study Area

Local Authority Boundaries

Redshaw Substation

Wind Farm Connection Point

SP Energy Networks

edp

Stantec

purpose of issue **ROUTEING CONSULTATION**

rev	description	date	by
e	Edit to study area and QA	04/04/2025	DJo
d	Edit to sudy area	12/03/2025	RBa
-	Original	21/05/2024	VMS

date	**04 APRIL 2025**
drawing number	**edp8565_d001e**
scale	**1:100,000 @ A3**
drawn by	**VMS**
checked	**MWi**
QA	**DJo**

client
SP Energy Networks

project title
Redshaw to Hagshaw Tee to Bankend Rig III Collector Substation Overhead Line Grid Connection

drawing title
Routeing Study Area