

Welcome

Welcome and thank you for visiting this public exhibition for the
Glenglass Substation Extension project.

In normal circumstances, we would engage with communities face-to-face through drop-in public exhibitions, however, given the COVID-19 pandemic and the success of other online consultation events, we have opted to run an online consultation for this proposed project. We have prepared this virtual consultation material to replicate an in-person village hall experience, and, in line with Scottish Government good practice guidance.



We hope you enjoy your visit, and we would encourage you to get in contact with SP Energy Networks should you wish to discuss the project any further or have any questions.

Through this consultation, you will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about SP Energy Networks;
- Learn about the project background;
- View the proposal for the substation extension and associated infrastructure; and
- Learn about the next steps and how you can provide feedback.

These exhibition boards are also available for download.

The consultation will run for two weeks between
15th August 2022 and **29th August 2022.**

However, the information will remain online and available to download in a pdf format from:

**[www.spenenergynetworks.co.uk/
GlenglassSubstationExtension](http://www.spenenergynetworks.co.uk/GlenglassSubstationExtension)**

About us

SP Energy Networks is part of the ScottishPower Group of companies and owns three regulated businesses in the UK. These businesses are 'asset owner' companies holding the regulated assets and Electricity Transmission and Distribution licenses of ScottishPower. 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.



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



Climate Emergency and Project Need

The impacts of climate change are widely recognised as being one of the greatest global, economic, environmental and social challenges facing the world today. A major cause of climate change is a rise in the concentration and volume of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, a significant contributor to which, is the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity, provide heat and to fuel transport.

One of the primary aims of the Scottish Government is to move towards a low carbon economy, with climate change targets to reduce net emissions of greenhouse gases by 100% relative to 1990 levels by 2045. Doing so would make Scotland a 'net zero' emitter. In 2019, Dumfries and Galloway Council adopted its Climate Emergency Action Plan, with the ambition of achieving net zero by 2025.

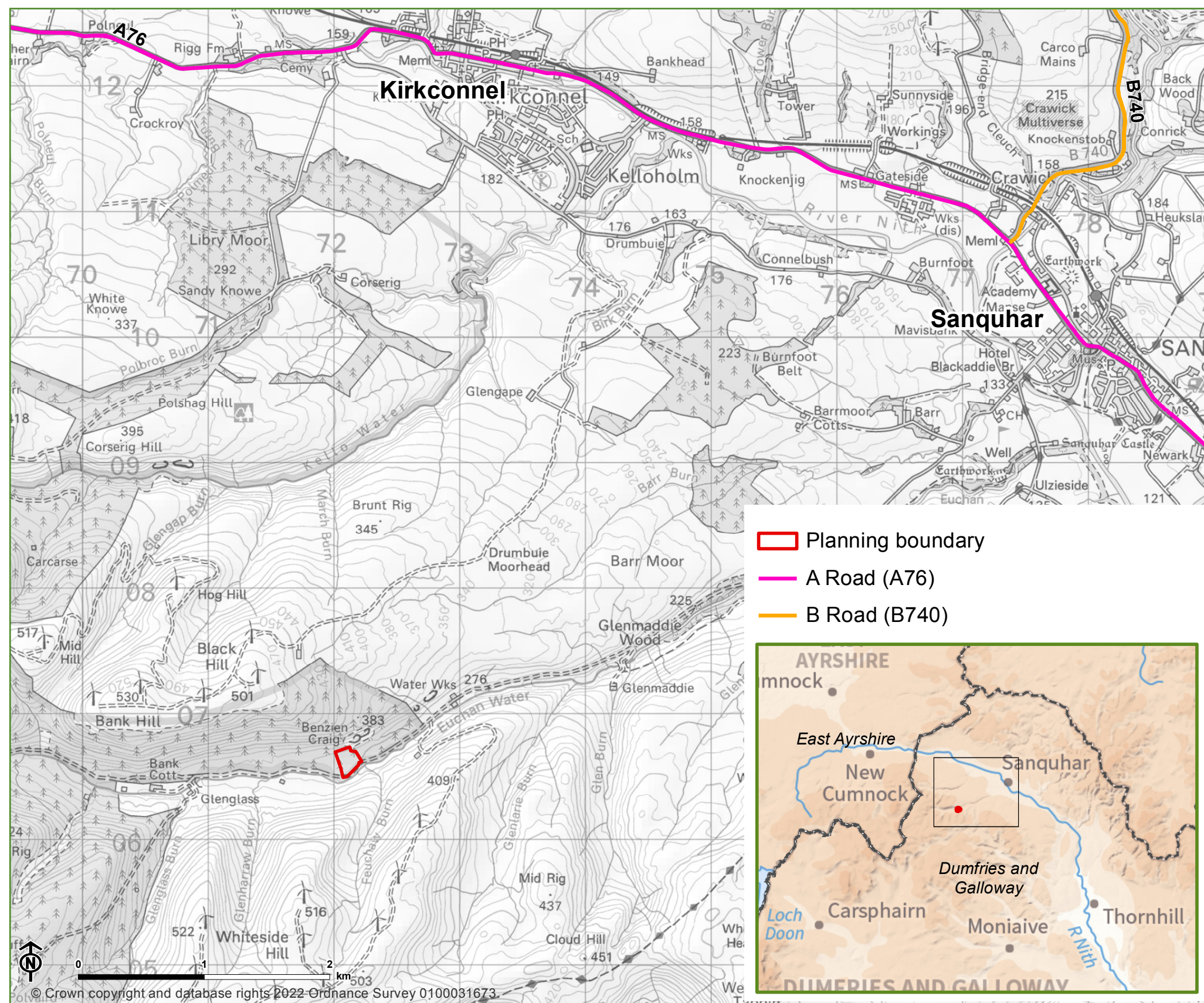
At SP Energy Networks, we recognise that the electricity network is the backbone of the energy system sitting at the heart of this net zero transition. We are currently at the forefront of decarbonising our energy system, having connected approximately one quarter of all onshore wind in Great Britain to the distribution network. We recognise our key role in helping the government meet its climate change targets. The proposed substation extension will facilitate the current contracted energy generation capacity from renewable energy developments connecting to the substation, as well as further energy transmission reinforcement work.



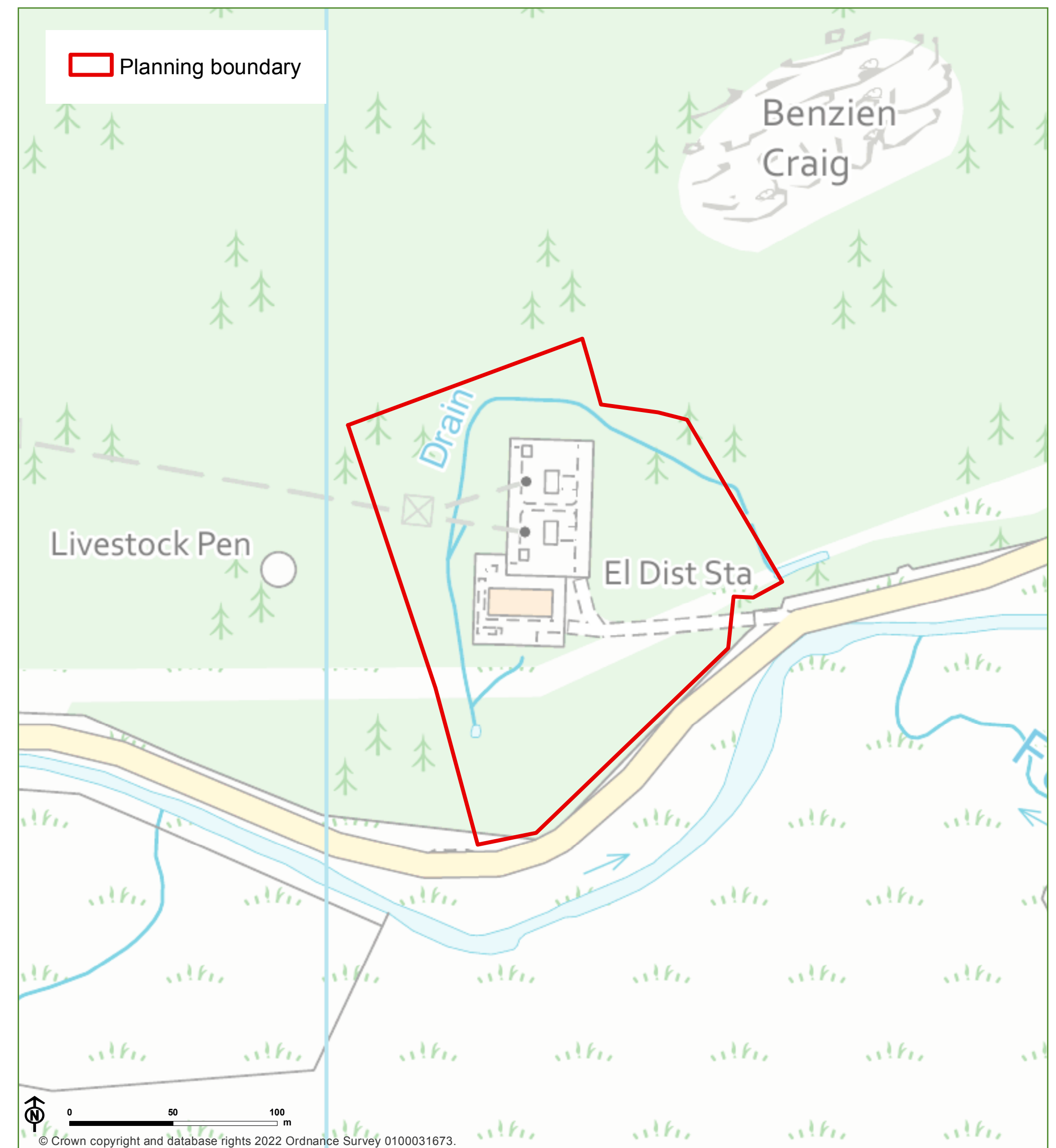
The Glenglass substation extension

The proposed Glenglass substation extension site is located in an area of felled commercial forestry at Euchanhead Forest, approximately 5km south of Kirkcannel. The extension will be situated primarily to the east of the existing 132kV Glenglass substation.

Site location



Existing substation



The Glenglass substation extension

We need to extend the Glenglass substation to facilitate the current contracted generation capacity from six renewable energy developments connecting to the substation. It would also accommodate the extra equipment needed to operate the new overhead lines proposed as part of the Glenmuckloch to Glenglass 132kV Reinforcement Project (proposed new overhead line approximately 10km in length).

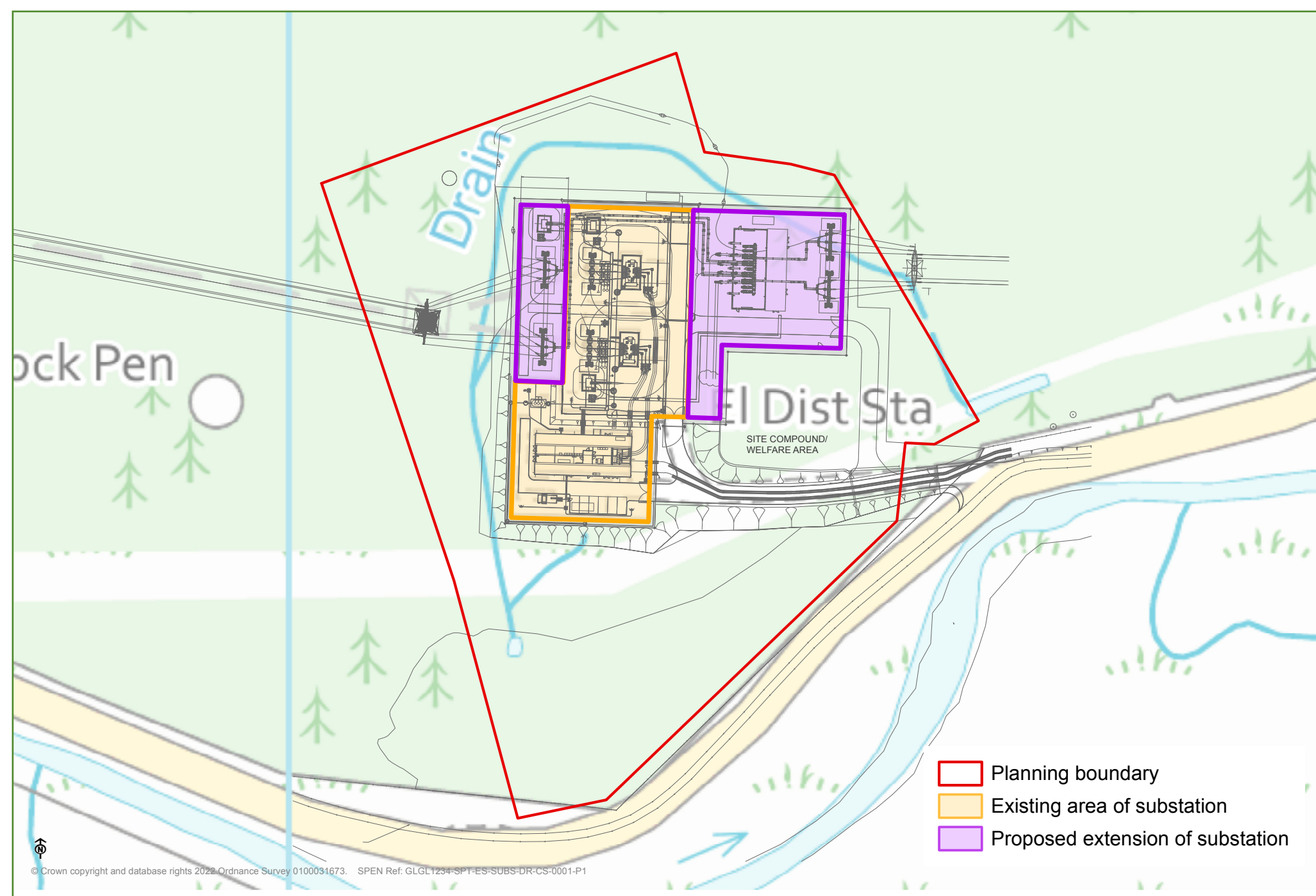
This substation extension project is separate to the Glenmuckloch to Glenglass 132kV Reinforcement Project and would allow work to commence on the substation extension prior to the granting of any Section 37 consent for the wider Reinforcement project. The substation extension would be needed regardless of whether or not the new overhead line is built.



How and where will the substation be extended?

The proposed extension site (red line boundary area) is approximately 2.903 hectares in area (as shown below). The proposed extension will comprise a single storey gas insulated substation (approximately 25.737m (l) x 16.961m (w) x 9.574m (h)) housing 132kV switch gear, primarily to the east of the existing Glenglass substation site.

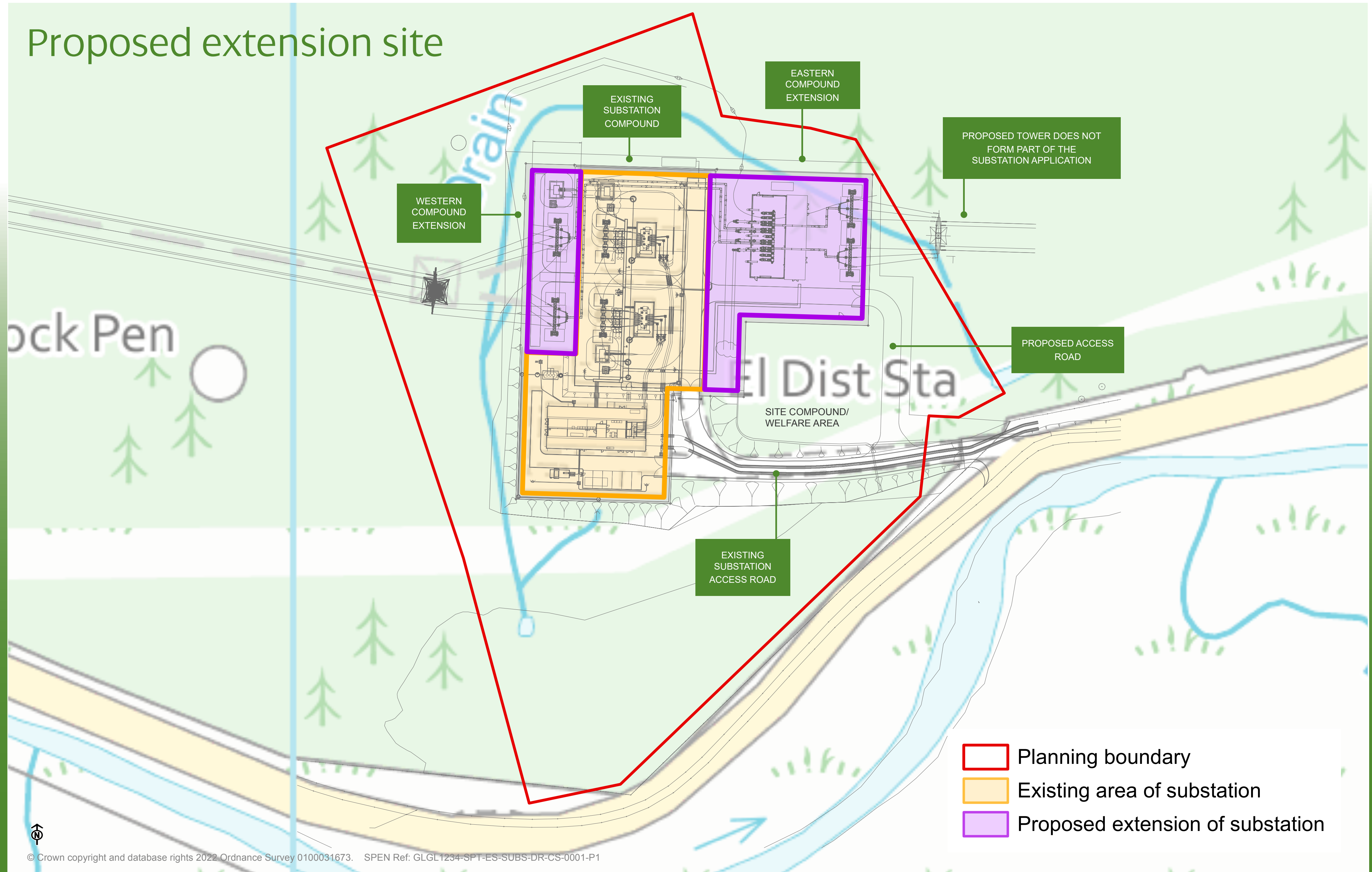
Proposed extension site



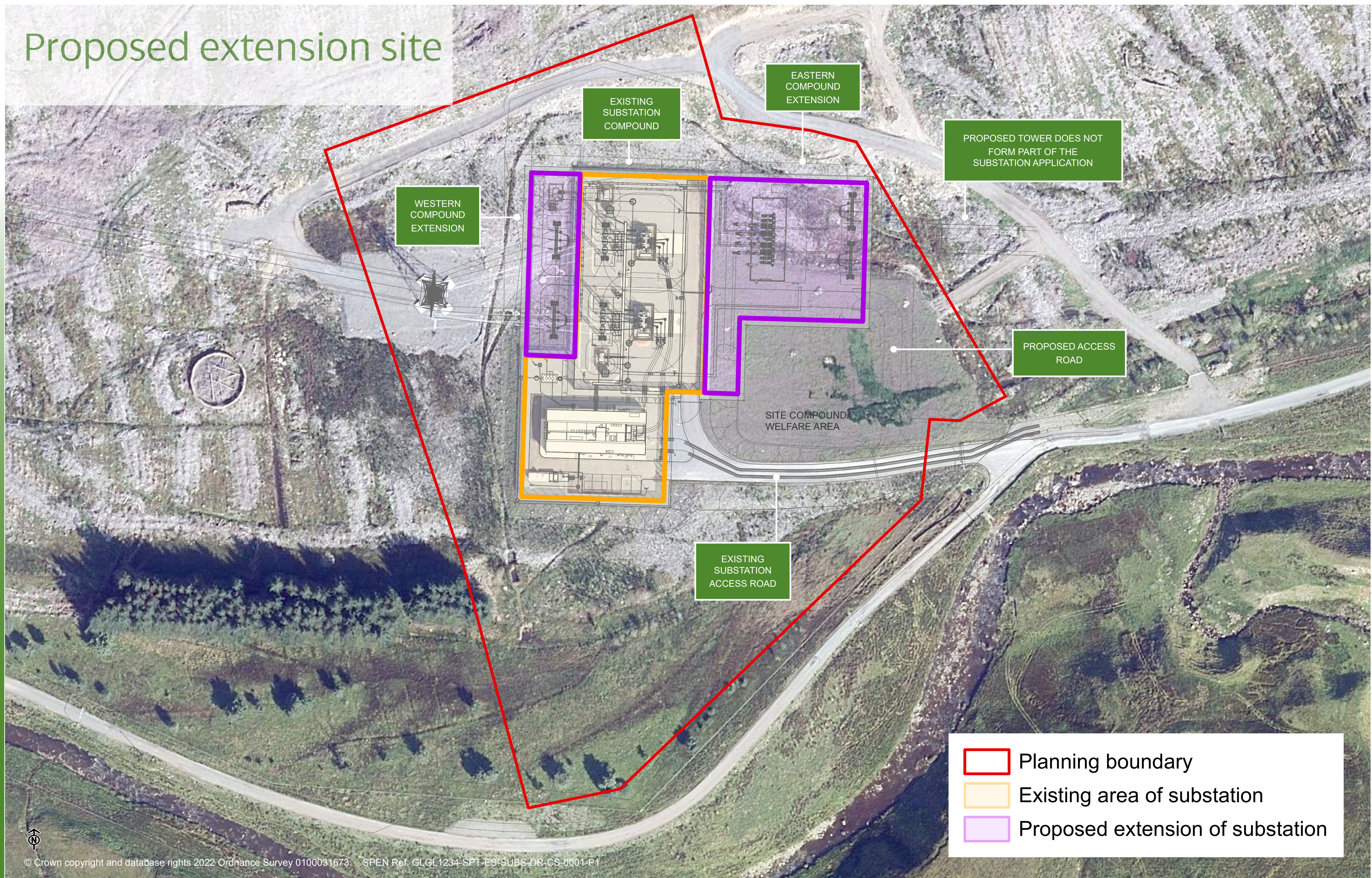
The works will also include:

- External steel security fencing, including an extension on the western boundary of the site;
- A new 5m wide access road extension to the existing access road to the west of the existing substation;
- Temporary welfare/construction compound area which will provide accommodation for cabins, car parking, waste skips and laydown areas for deliveries; and
- Temporary drainage.

Proposed extension site

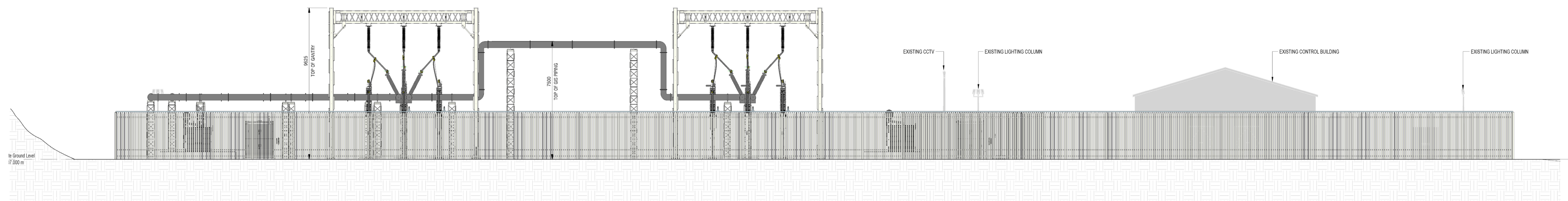


Proposed extension site

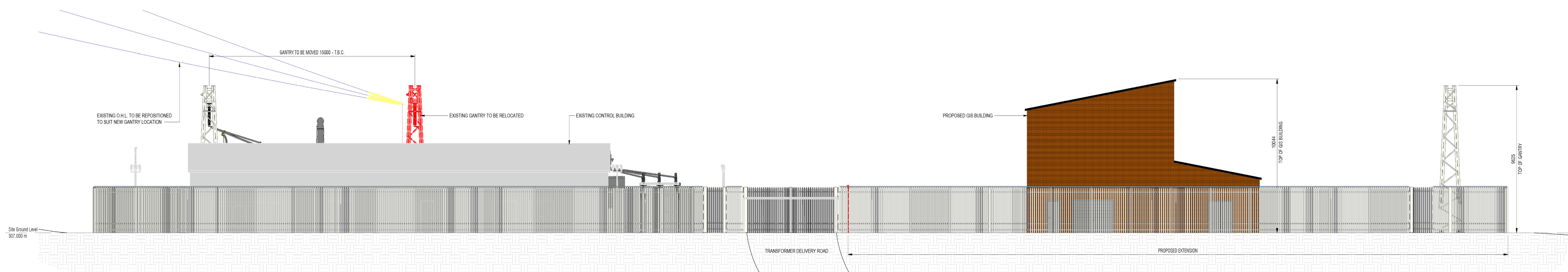


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Proposed Elevations

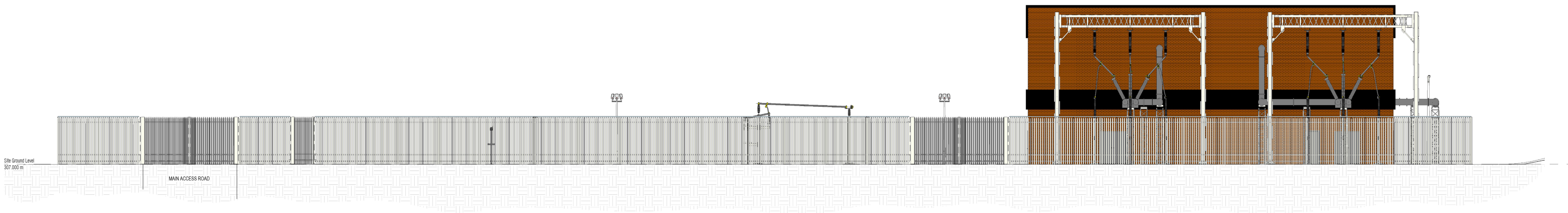


Proposed Elevation West

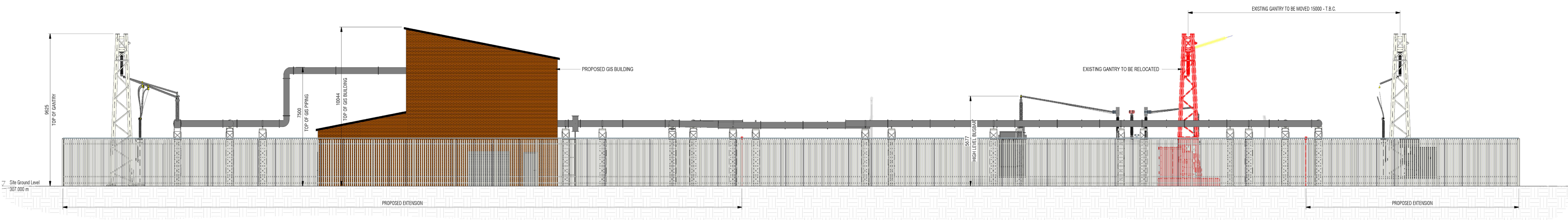


Proposed Elevation South

Proposed Elevations



Proposed Elevation East



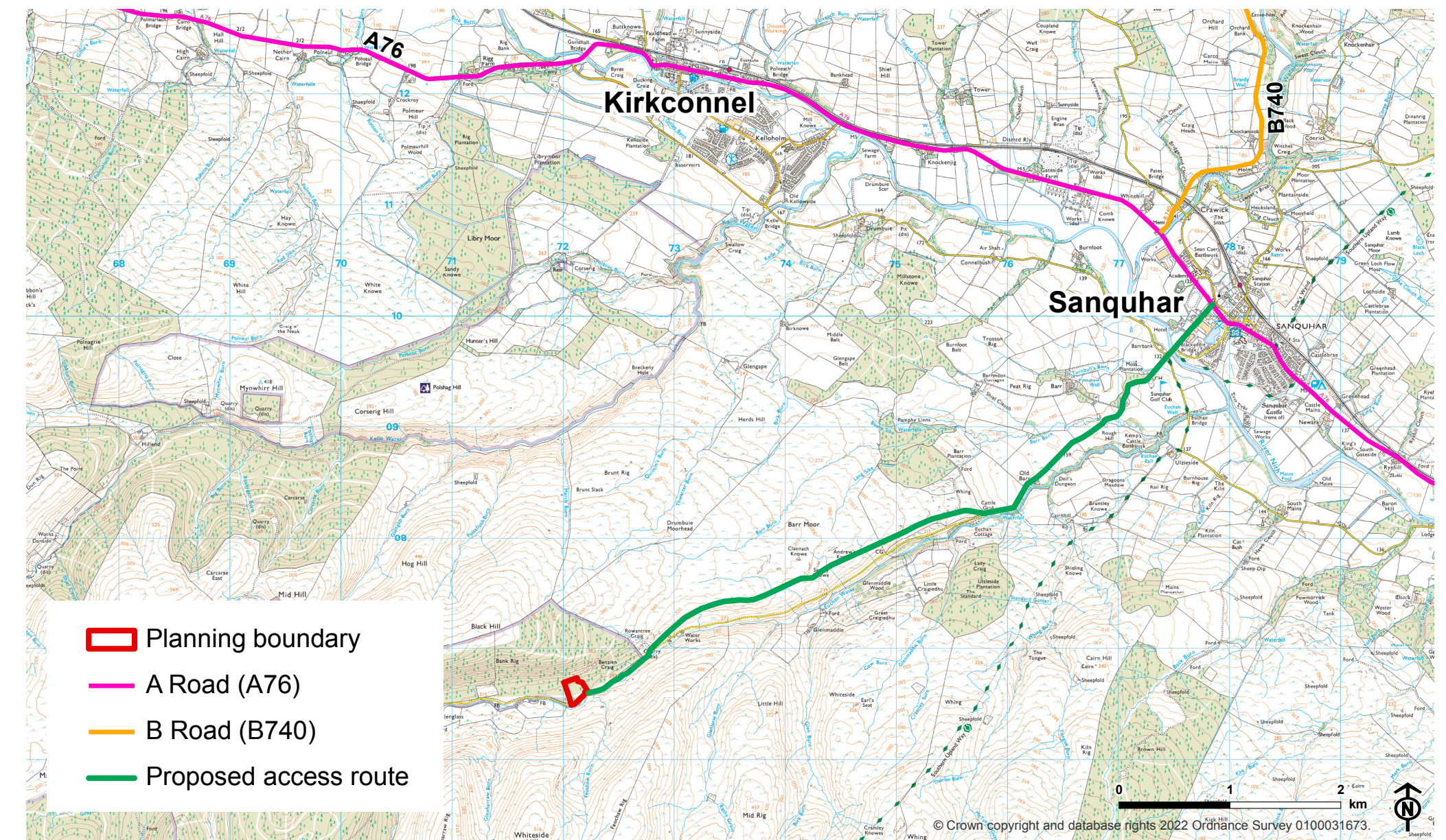
Proposed Elevation North

Environmental Considerations



Forestry

The site lies within a felled section of the Eucharhead forest, which is largely commercial forestry. No Ancient Woodlands or Native Woodlands are located within or in close proximity to the site. There are no direct losses of commercial forestry required for the proposed substation extension, as the area has already been subject to felling operations.



Traffic

Construction traffic will use the existing off-road track accessed from the U432n which is accessed via the C128n Blackaddie Road, off the A76 Glasgow Road in Sanquhar. The U432n has been upgraded as part of the project to facilitate the construction of the existing Glenglass substation. Based on initial assessment of the scale of the works and the local context, the traffic generated by the Proposed Development will not include any abnormal load traffic and is anticipated to result in minor effects.

Environmental Considerations



Landscape

The site lies within a contained, upland valley and whilst the proposed extension will be visible as a newly constructed building, the surrounding landscape will limit its visibility and views will be in the context of the adjacent existing substation. There is potential for it to be seen by a limited number of recreational visitors which will be subject to confirmation using a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) assessment and site surveys considering nearby residential properties.



The Proposed Development lies within the Southern Uplands – Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Character Type (LCT), as defined by Scottish Natural Heritage (now NatureScot) in 2019. The site is not located within, or in proximity to, any national or local level landscape designations.

As part of the environmental information that will be prepared in support of the future planning application, an appraisal of potential effects on potential landscape and visual receptors will be undertaken. This will make reference to ZTV plans and visualisations if required. Given the location and nature of the substation extension, significant landscape and visual effects are not predicted.

Environmental Considerations



Ecology and Ornithology

The site is not located directly within, or in close proximity to, any designated sites with ecological or ornithological qualifying features, including any Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

An Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey of the Proposed Development site plus a 50m buffer was undertaken in June 2020, following best practice methods, with an updated survey being carried out in August 2022. Areas of marshy grassland were noted to have established across the disturbed ground created by forestry works. An area of semi-improved neutral grassland was recorded immediately to the east of the existing substation. Some small ponds (possibly remnant SUDS ponds from the construction of the existing substation) were identified immediately to the south of the existing substation. No evidence of protected species was recorded. The results of the survey will be presented within the Environmental Appraisal that will accompany the planning application. The survey work concludes that there are no habitats of conservation concern or evidence of protected species.

Previous ornithological field work and desk-based surveys carried out in association with the Glenmuckloch to Glenglass 132kV Reinforcement Project in 2018 have established that potential ornithological effects are not considered to be significant and that the study area is considered low in terms of bird interest with no records of high concentrations of Annex 1/Schedule 1 raptor species identified in the survey zones (within 5km of the site).



Environmental Considerations



Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat

The proposed substation extension is sited approximately 40m north of the Euchar Water. There are no private or public water supplies within 1km of the Proposed Development and the site is located outwith any Category 1 or Category 2 Priority Peatland Habitats as identified by SNH (Mapping of SNH Carbon Rich Soil, Deep Peat and Priority Peatlands (CPP) (July 2016).

SEPA flood maps show that the 200-year return period floodplain of the Euchar Water lies close to the southern boundary of the Proposed Development however, based on an initial review of LiDAR ground elevation data, the topography indicates that the Proposed Development sits approximately 3m higher than the banks of the Euchar Water. The existing substation has also not experienced any past flooding events.

A Stage 1 Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) will be prepared to accompany the planning application to assess the risk of flooding. Peat probing has been undertaken to determine peat depths at the site and a peat survey report and appraisal of effects will accompany the planning application.

Historic Environment

There are no designated assets within the site, or in close proximity to it. No designated assets within the wider area have been identified as being sensitive to setting change.

There are also no known non-designated assets identified within the footprint of the proposed substation extension.

The potential for hitherto unknown cultural heritage assets within the footprint of the proposed extension is considered very low given the known cultural heritage resource of the area, the extent of works, and the prior use of the site as commercial coniferous forest. On this basis, no effects to cultural heritage are considered likely.

The Consultation Process

Your feedback is important in helping SP Energy Networks finalise the proposed development, which considers technical, economic and environmental issues along with public opinion.

We would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete our online questionnaire.

Our consultation will run for two weeks from **15th August 2022** to **29th August 2022**. The closing date for you to provide your response to us is midnight on **Monday 5th September 2022**.

Below are the best ways to find out more or to talk to us.



On our dedicated website you can view or download all the project documents at the link below.

[www.spenetworks.co.uk/
GlenglassSubstationExtension](http://www.spenetworks.co.uk/GlenglassSubstationExtension)



Email us: [glenglassgisprojectmanager@
spenetworks.co.uk](mailto:glenglassgisprojectmanager@spenetworks.co.uk)

Your Views

We want to know what you think about our plans for Glenglass substation, including:

- 1 The proposed substation extension; and
- 2 Any other issues.

Please note comments at this stage are informal comments to SP Energy Networks. An opportunity to comment formally to Dumfries and Galloway Council will follow at a later stage in the process, following submission of the planning application.

What happens next?

SP Energy Networks places great importance on the effect its work may have on the environment and local communities and is keen to hear the views of local people to develop the project in the best way. Following consultation, we will examine the responses received before finalising our proposal.

We will produce a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report detailing the feedback received and how this has been taken into account (where relevant) in the design of the proposal. This report will accompany our planning application to Dumfries and Galloway Council, which we expect to submit in October 2022.

Subject to receiving planning consent, work will start on site approximately April 2023 and should finish around March 2024.

Thank you for taking the time to visit this public exhibition.