

Dun Law Extension to Galashiels 132kV Reinforcements Consultation

Wednesday 5th March to Wednesday 2nd April

SP Energy Networks is proposing to replace the existing overhead line running from the Dun Law Extension Substation to the Galashiels Substation.

Based on feedback received during the first round of consultation in summer 2024, changes have been made to the preferred route and infrastructure. The proposed replacement line now includes overhead and underground power lines.

We would like your views on the updated proposals before we identify a final, Proposed Route to take forward to design development and further consultation before seeking consent to install the replacement line.

Why the existing overhead line needs to be replaced

Power generated by the turbines at the Dun Law Windfarm is currently fed into the national grid via the Dun Law Substation. The developer has applied to re-power and extend the life of the wind farm, enabling it to generate more electricity.

More broadly, there is an increase in generation capacity on the network that requires connection to the electricity grid between Dun Law and Galashiels. The network needs reinforcements to enable connection of this additional generation capacity to the grid and ensure we can comply with our statutory and license obligations.

For more information on SP Energy Networks
please visit our website at:



www.spenergynetworks.co.uk



Scan the QR code to visit the project
web page to view the full consultation
information. Details about consultation
events are on the back page.

Preferred Route Option

The current proposals have been developed following public consultation in summer 2024. The main feedback received about the previous preferred route related to concerns about the proximity to properties and communities, particularly around Lauder and Oxton. In response to this, we reassessed the engineering challenges associated with taking the route further west to identify a less impactful alternative.

Map A shows the updated preferred route compared to the previous preferred route.

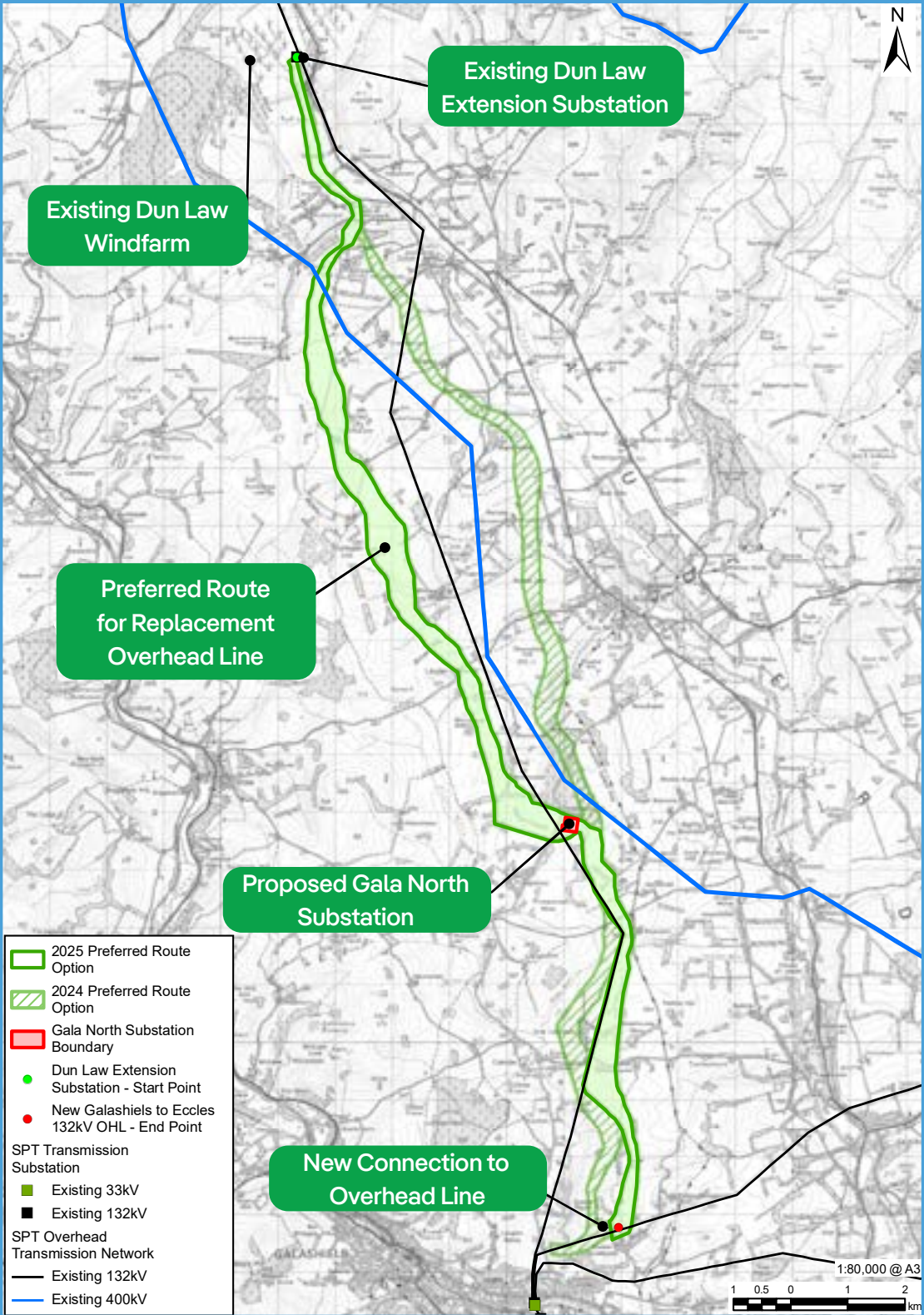
Changes since the previous consultation

The route has been revised to reduce the impact on the local communities, particularly around Oxton and Lauder. For the section from Dun Law Extension Substation to the

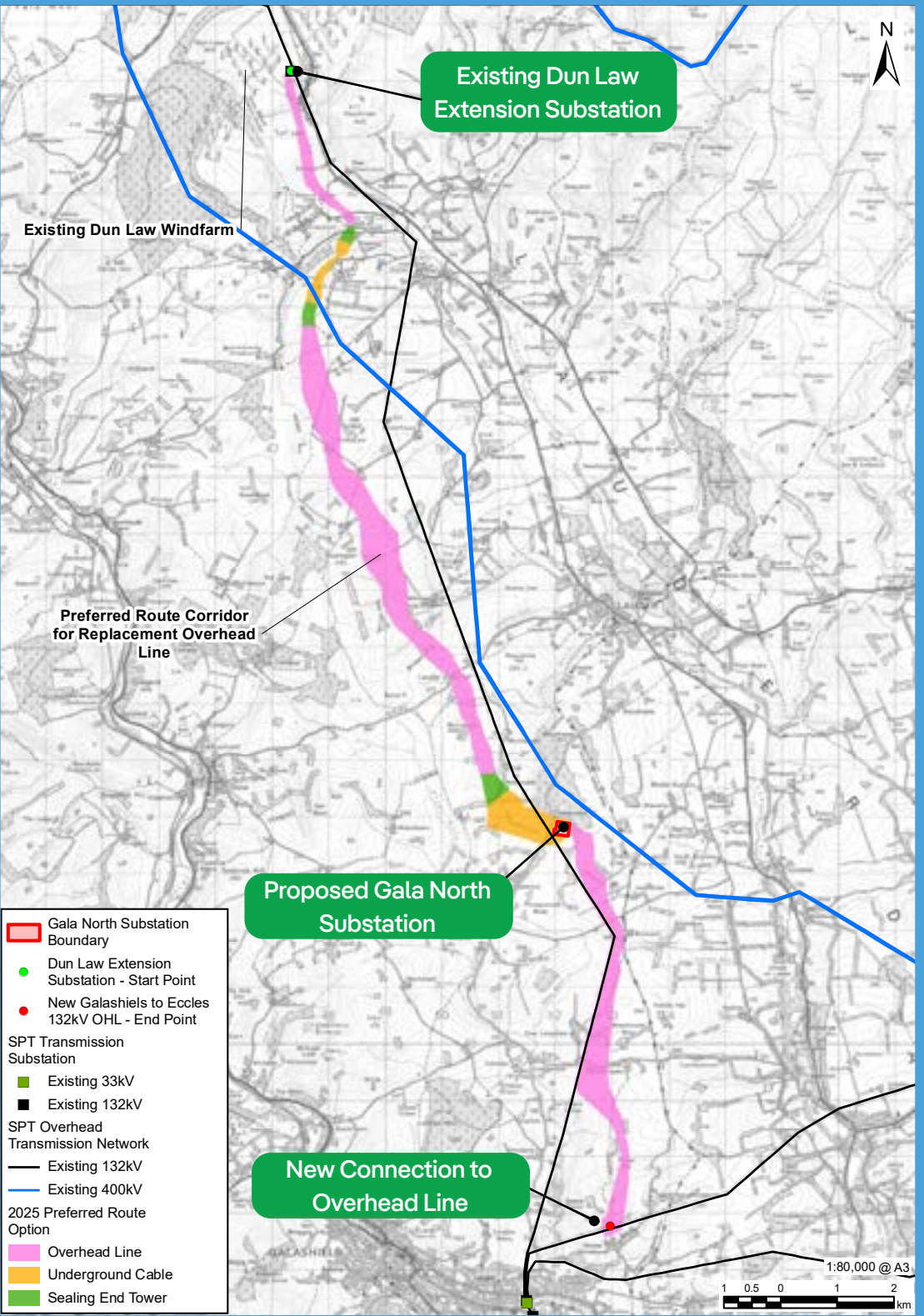
proposed Gala North Substation, the western option is now being taken forward as the preferred route. There is a minor change in the preferred route between the Gala North Substation and the 132kV line just north of Galashiels.

Map B shows indicative placement of infrastructure.

Map A



Map B



Proposed infrastructure



The replacement overhead line will be carried on steel lattice towers (pylons).



The towers have a standard height of 30m but can be up to 42m where required to ensure electrical safety clearance above the ground.



Changes since the previous consultation
We are proposing:

- a 2.5km section of the line to be underground in the Airhouses area to reduce visual impact and enable safe crossing of the existing 400kV overhead line.
- a section of underground cable on approach to the proposed Gala North Substation
- installation of three Cable Sealing End compounds to facilitate the transition between overhead and underground lines.

Integrating energy transmission in the area

As the distribution and transmission operator in the region, we have the statutory obligation to connect the several proposed renewable energy developments in and around the Scottish Borders. One of our priorities is to strategically consider developments to reduce the impact on the environment and local communities.

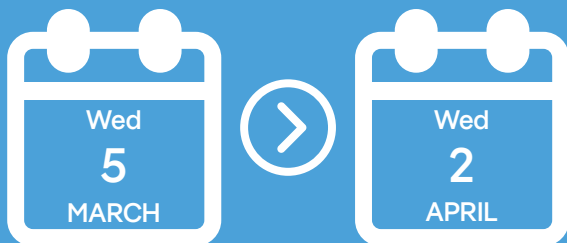
Grid connection applications have been submitted for wind farm and energy storage proposals near Torfichen Hill (Torfichen) in Midlothian and 9km north of Lauder (Longcroft). SP Energy Networks is required to facilitate the connection of these generation projects to the electricity grid which are currently contracted to connect to the proposed Gala North Substation.

Routing work is currently ongoing for Torfichen and Longcroft with proposed connection to the cable sealing ends within the Dunlaw Extension to Galashiels 132kV Reinforcements proposals. This change will reduce the cumulative impact of the developments by shortening the lengths of the Torfichen and Longcroft connections.

Consultations on the Torfichen and Longcroft grid connections will take place before summer 2025.

Consultation details and giving feedback

This consultation runs from



View the full proposals by visiting our Virtual Consultation Room at:



dunlaw.consultation.ai



or by attending one of our in-person consultation events.

Drop-in consultation events

We are holding two drop-in consultation events for people to understand how the proposals have developed based on previous feedback. You can speak to members of the project team and give feedback at the events.

Wednesday 12 March at the Lauderdale Hotel, 1 Edinburgh Road, Lauder TD2 6TW from 3.30pm to 7.30pm

Tuesday 18 March at the Carfraemill Hotel, nr Oxtoun, Lauder, TD2 6RA from 3.30pm to 7.30pm

These events are open to all. Please drop in at any point that suits you during the times above.

You can also request a copy of the consultation materials to be posted to you by emailing or writing using the details below.

Giving feedback

Please give us your feedback on the updated preferred route option for the Dun Law Extension to Galashiels 132kV Reinforcements. We will consider all comments received as we develop our final Proposed Route for the replacement line.

You can provide your feedback by:



Completing a feedback form at dunlaw.consultation.ai or in person at one of our information events



Email: dunlawext@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Write to:
Dun Law OHL consultation,
c/o AECOM, 1 Tanfield,
Edinburgh, EH3 5DA

About SP Energy Networks

SP Energy Networks is 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.

We do this through the network of overhead lines and underground cables which we own and maintain.

SP Transmission is a wholly owned subsidiary of SP Energy Networks and is responsible for the transmission of electricity in central and southern Scotland. We transmit and distribute energy to over 3.5m homes in Central and Southern Scotland, North Wales and the North-West of England.

For more information on SP Energy Networks please visit our website at www.spenergynetworks.co.uk