



# Tealing to Kincardine Upgrade Project: Westfield Substation Extension

## Public Consultation

Scotland is producing more clean, green energy than ever before, and we need to strengthen the transmission network so we can get it to the homes, schools and businesses that need it.

The UK and Scottish Governments are committed to increasing the use of renewable energy and have targets to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emission by 2045 in Scotland and 2050 in the UK.

To help make this happen we need to increase the voltage of overhead lines in Fife from 275,000 volts (275kV) to 400,000 volts (400kV), and extend Westfield substation, near Ballingry, to strengthen the electricity transmission network and guarantee secure energy supplies for the future.

In July this year we consulted local people on our initial proposals, and since then we have continued talking to stakeholders and conducting technical and environmental studies.

We have now refined our plans and we are holding a second round of public consultation so local people can give us their views. This leaflet tells you about our plans, where to find more information, and how you can give us your views.

Our public consultation runs until Friday 20 December 2024.



## Why do we need to extend Westfield substation?

Much of the electricity transmission network in Scotland is between 50 and 100 years old. It has grown and evolved to meet industrial needs and serve the expanding population, but the network in central Scotland will soon be at full capacity – unable to accommodate all the clean, green renewable energy we will all need in future.

More onshore and offshore wind farms, solar energy and battery storage are connecting to the power network and we need to increase the voltage of the overhead lines in this area from 275kV to 400kV, in keeping with the wider electricity transmission network, so we can get the energy from where it's produced to where it's needed.

In order to increase the voltage and network capacity we need to replace the two existing 275kV transformers at Westfield substation – which are now 55 years old – with four new 400kV transformers.

Before we can switch off the old transformers, we need to extend the substation site so we can install the new 400kV transformers and equipment and connect them to the network.

This is because the old transformers are essential to keep the lights on and the power flowing while we put the new substation in place.

## Our updated plans for Westfield substation

We propose to extend Westfield substation to the west of the existing compound, immediately south of the B9097 near Ballingry. There is an existing access from the B9097 into the existing substation. The proposed extension will have similar equipment to SPEN's Kilmarnock South substation, pictured on the front of this leaflet.

The project will include:

- A new 400kV SF6-free Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation building, which will house electrical switchgear, plant and ancillary equipment
- Five 400/132kV transformers and one 400/275kV transformer
- SF6-free GIS double busbar to connect the switchgear to each circuit
- Internal access roads and vehicle parking
- Drainage and mitigation (for example, landscaping)
- A new steel palisade fence and internal fencing around the live compound to ensure safety and security.

Since the previous consultation in July 2024, we have refined our plans to include six transformers rather than the four originally proposed, as shown on the plan in this leaflet.

## Overhead line changes

We will need to make minor alterations to the existing overhead lines at Westfield to connect them to the new substation, as shown on the plan in this leaflet.

At the moment, the overhead lines cross the site for the proposed new substation. We plan to put up one temporary mast (not two, as previously proposed) so we can divert the overhead lines away from the site, removing six existing towers (pylons) and allowing us to build the new substation.

We will then need to put up two new towers to connect the new substation to the network before removing the temporary mast and line diversion. The underground cables required near the northern boundary will also now be within the substation site and not on the other side of the road as originally proposed. The underground cables will connect the existing 132kV network to the existing 132kV substation.

## What else is involved in the Tealing to Kincardine Upgrade Project?

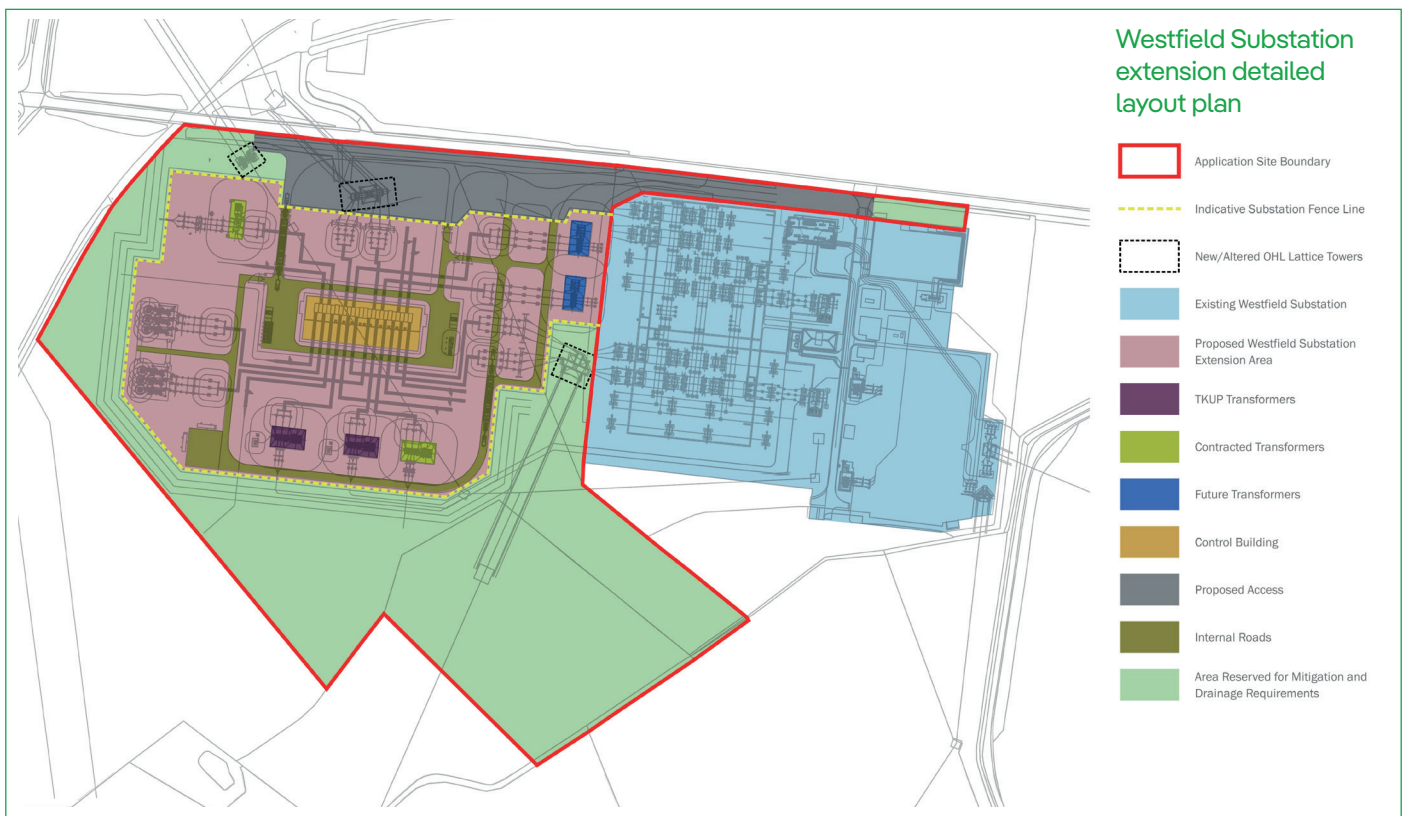
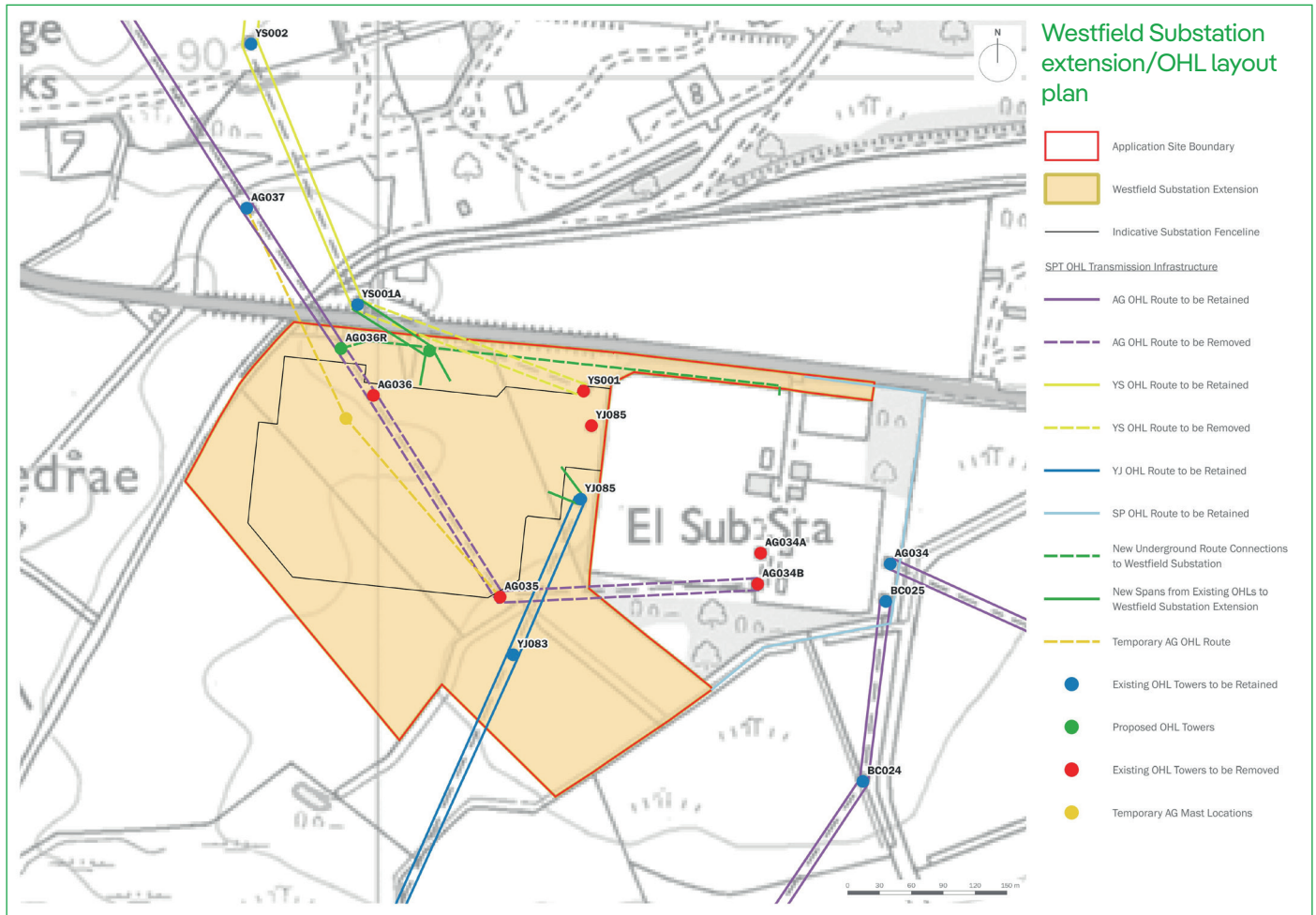
The purpose of the project is to increase the voltage of overhead lines from 275kV to 400kV between Tealing, near Dundee (in the Scottish and Southern Energy Networks area) and Kincardine (in the SP Energy Networks area), to allow more clean, green energy to flow through the network.

To make this happen, SP Energy Networks needs to extend the substations at Mossmorran, near Cowdenbeath, and Westfield, near Ballingry. Our first round of consultation also included a proposal to connect two existing overhead lines to each other north of Kincardine. However, further technical studies have concluded this is not required and it is no longer part of the project.

You can find full details on our project website.







## We want to hear your views

Our public consultation runs until Friday 20 December 2024.

SPEN attaches great importance to the effect our work may have on the environment and local communities. We want to hear what local people think about our plans, to help us develop the project in the best way.

**Please come along to our public exhibitions** where you can see our plans in more detail and ask questions of the project team:

**Tuesday 26 November, 2pm to 7pm:**

Benarty Centre, Flockhouse Avenue, Ballingry  
KY5 8JH

**Thursday 28 November, 2pm to 7pm:**

Auchtertool Village Hall, Main Street, Auchtertool  
KY2 5XW

You can find more information and project documents on our project website, where you can also fill in an online feedback form. If you don't have internet access, you can call our Freephone number to ask any questions you may have, or request a personal call back from a member of the project team. We can also send you a paper feedback form and a Freepost envelope so you can complete it and return it to us free of charge.



## How to contact us

You can email us at:

Email: [tkup@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:tkup@communityrelations.co.uk)

You can call us **free of charge** on:

Freephone: **0800 470 2376**

You can write to us **free of charge** at:

Freepost: **FREEPOST SPEN TKUP**

You can find more information about the project on our website: <https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/tkup.aspx>

## What happens next?

Following this second round of consultation we will develop detailed designs for the substations, including locations for buildings, access routes and working areas. We will publish a report summarising the feedback received and how this has influenced our proposals.

We will carry out a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment before we finalise our proposals and submit planning applications under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) to Fife Council.

We will also need to submit applications to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989, for the proposed changes to the overhead lines and uprating in voltage.

At this stage, your comments are not representations to the planning authorities. When we submit applications for development consent in the future, you will be able to make formal representations at that stage.

