



Cloich Forest Wind Farm Connection Project Preferred Route for a New 132kV Overhead Line

Background

The Cloich Forest Wind Farm Connection Project involves a 132 kilovolt (kV) overhead line (OHL) supported on wood poles, located between the proposed Cloich Forest Wind Farm substation in the Scottish Borders Council area, and the existing substation at Currie in the City of Edinburgh Council area.

The connection is required to allow the proposed Cloich Forest Wind Farm to input into the electricity network if approved. SP 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 overhead line 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 single circuit lines operating at 132 kV.

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 14 metres (m), 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 80 m to 100 m, 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 reservoir.

The precise pole configuration, height and span will be determined after a detailed line design has been agreed.

Typical trident wood pole



Preferred Route Option

SPEN has been working with independent environmental consultants to identify options for potential routes for the proposed OHL. Our objective is to identify a route for the overhead line which meets the technical requirements of the electricity system, which are economically viable and cause, on balance, the least disturbance to the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy recreation within it.

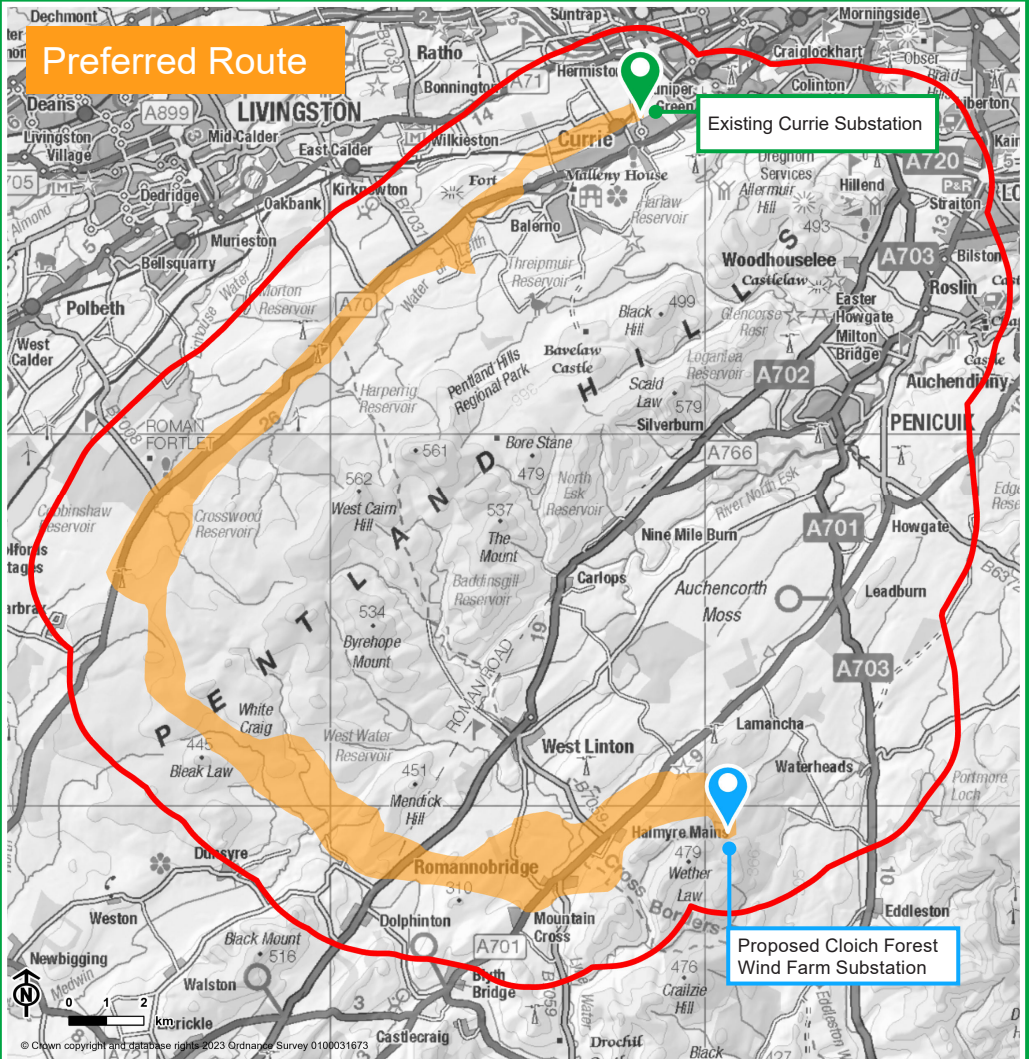
SPEN are committed to engaging with stakeholders, including local communities, through the consultation process and your feedback will be used to review the routeing findings and inform the next steps.

What we would like your views on?

As part of the consultation we would like your views on:

- 1 The preferred route for the Cloich Forest Wind Farm Connection Project
- 2 Any other issues, suggestions or feedback you would like us to consider. We would particularly like to hear your views on your local area, for example areas you use for recreation, local environmental features you would like us to consider, and any plans you may have to build in proximity to the preferred route.

Cloich Forest Wind Farm Connection Project



More information about the process we have followed to identify, appraise and select the preferred route can be found on the project website:

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/cloich.aspx

Please note comments at this stage are informal comments to SPEN and are made to allow SPEN to determine whether changes to the preferred route are necessary. An opportunity to comment formally to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit will follow at a later stage in the process following submission of the Section 37 application.

We want to hear your views!

Our consultation period will run between **Monday 13th May and Monday 17th June**. Please submit any comments to us by **midnight on Monday 17th June 2024**. Following this date, the information will remain accessible online and available to download.

Please find details below on how to get in touch with us and find out more:



Visit the website:

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/cloich.aspx



Email us:

Cloichprojectmanager@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Send us a letter

Cloich Project Manager,
Land and Planning Team, SP Energy Networks,
55 Fullarton Drive, Glasgow, G32 8FA



Attend a public exhibition

The exhibitions will be held at the following locations and times:

Tues 28th May 2024 between 11:30am – 6pm

St Andrew's New Church Hall, Main Street, West Linton, EH46 7EE

Wed 29th May 2024 between 1pm - 6pm

Tarbrax Village Hall, Crosswood Terrace, Tarbrax, West Calder, EH55 8XE

Mon 3rd June 2024 between 1pm - 7pm

Balerno Community Centre, 7- 11 Main Street, Balerno, Edinburgh, EH14 7EQ.



Visit the online virtual exhibition

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/cloich.aspx

What happens next

Your comments will be reviewed and fed into the detailed design and 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 received in this consultation will also be collated into a report which will be made publicly available on SP Energy Networks website.

Detailed Design

Scoping

EIA & Second Round of Consultation

Section 37 Submission