
**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire electricity distribution network:
132,000 Volt wood pole overhead line from Oswestry to Wem**

Statement of Community Consultation

November 2017

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. The proposed development	4
3. The consenting process	5
4. Consultation to date	6
5. Our Statutory Consultation	8
6. Submitting feedback and what happens next	14
7. Consultation in addition to the community consultation	15
<hr/>	
Appendix 1 – SoCC notice (s47)	16
Appendix 2 – Consultation zone	18
Appendix 3 – Additional consultees	20

1. Introduction

Overview of the Statement of Community Consultation

This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) sets out SP Manweb's approach to the statutory stage of consultation on the proposed development of a new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit from Oswestry to Wem. It has been prepared in accordance with s47 of the Planning Act 2008 (the 2008 Act). Section 47 (1) of the 2008 Act requires applicants to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land'. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with this requirement. It has been publicised through a public notice, as required by s47 of the 2008 Act and a copy of this notice is available in **Appendix 1**.

This SoCC explains the community consultation being undertaken and covers:

- The proposed development
- The consenting process
- Where and when the consultation is taking place and who is being consulted
- How the consultation will be undertaken, including the materials that will be published and other engagement activities

- Where people can view these materials and find out more
- The importance of feedback from local people and how they can provide their comments

The consultation is running from 23 November 2017 to 2 February 2018.

The consultation is an important opportunity for local communities (including residents, businesses, organisations and visitors) to get involved and influence the proposals.

This SoCC has been developed in consultation with Shropshire Council. It is designed to help members of the public understand how they can take part in the consultation and what they can influence. This consultation follows non-statutory consultation that commenced in June 2016 and continued to run to the end of July 2017. It is anticipated to be the last consultation on the proposed development before an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) is made to the Planning Inspectorate. It is important to take part if you want to influence the proposed development.

Who is SP Manweb plc?

SP Manweb plc (SP Manweb) is the licensed electricity Distribution Network Operator (DNO) which owns and manages the electricity distribution network within Cheshire, Merseyside, North Shropshire and North Wales. The network is used to distribute electricity, which has been transmitted to grid supply points, for electricity supply companies to sell onto their customers.

SP Manweb's role is to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity supply in the area for which it is responsible. As such, it is the named applicant for this proposed development.

SP Manweb is part of SP Energy Networks which owns three regulated electricity network businesses in the UK. These are SP Manweb, SP Distribution and SP Transmission which transmit electricity in Central and Southern Scotland. SP Energy Networks supplies electricity to:

- **1.5 million** customers in Merseyside, Cheshire, North Wales and North Shropshire
- **2 million** customers in Central and Southern Scotland

2. The proposed development

Why the proposed development is needed

The current local electricity distribution 33,000 Volt and 11,000 Volt network has been supplying North Shropshire reliably for many years. But with future growth in the region planned up to 2030 and beyond, SP Manweb and Shropshire Council have agreed that there is a need to reinforce the network in order to maintain the required levels of supply in this area.

To reinforce the network, SP Manweb is investing £18m to install a new permanent 132,000 Volt electrical circuit from Oswestry substation, located at the A5/A495 roundabout, to Wem substation, located on Ellesmere Road on the western side of Wem.

The new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit will provide capacity to support development on land allocated for new jobs and homes in Oswestry, Whitchurch and Wem, as identified in Shropshire Council's adopted *Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan (the Local Plan)*¹. The proposed development is therefore vital for unlocking this growth in North Shropshire and Shropshire Council has recognised the need for increased capacity in its draft *Economic Growth Strategy 2017-2021* which says:

We have engaged with Scottish Power Energy Networks to secure significant investment proposals in the north of the County to improve electricity infrastructure by 2021.

What SP Manweb is proposing to build

It is proposed that the new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit will comprise of an approximately 1.2 kilometre underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an approximately 21 kilometre wood pole overhead Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation, consisting of around 176 wood poles with an average height of 12 metres. The installation of this new circuit will require, subject to consent being granted, temporary construction works over an approximately 18 month period between 2020 to 2021.

The installation of an overhead line with a voltage of 132,000 Volt or above, longer than two kilometres, is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the 2008 Act. This means that a DCO is required to construct and operate the proposed development.

Benefits and impacts

The proposed development will support growth – particularly at Oswestry, Whitchurch and Wem – which will bring new housing developments, new business and new jobs to the local area. All of this growth will need electricity. The existing network is, however, not capable of supporting the expansion set out in Shropshire Council's adopted Local Plan.

The benefits of the new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit cannot be achieved without some impacts related to the construction and operation of the new reinforcement. These impacts potentially include effects on local ecology and wildlife; landscape and visual amenity; archaeology and cultural heritage; and transportation and socio-economic factors.

¹ <http://shropshire.gov.uk/media/1900363/SAMDev-adopted-plan.pdf>

3. The consenting process

DCO applications are submitted to, and examined by, the Planning Inspectorate and a decision is made by the relevant Secretary of State, in this case the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Below is a summary of how the DCO application process works:

- 1 Consultation** – SP Manweb notifies and consults the public, statutory consultees and those with an interest in the affected land (in accordance with sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Act) on its proposed application, following earlier non-statutory consultation
- 2 Submission** – SP Manweb will review the feedback received during the consultation and finalise the proposals, taking this feedback into account. A DCO application will then be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, who will appoint the Examining Authority for the application
- 3 Acceptance** – After the application is submitted, the Planning Inspectorate will decide whether it is suitable for examination
- 4 Pre-examination** – If accepted for examination, there will be an opportunity for people to register their interest in the application with the Planning Inspectorate. Anyone registering an interest will be kept informed of the progress of the application, including when and how they can provide comments. A preliminary meeting will set the timetable for examination
- 5 Examination** – The Examination lasts six months. People who have registered their interest will be able to send their comments to the Planning Inspectorate and ask to speak at public hearings
- 6 Decision** – Following the Examination, the Planning Inspectorate will make a recommendation on the application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Ultimately, the decision as to whether to grant a DCO or not lies with the Secretary of State

NSIPs are determined with regard to National Policy Statements (NPSs) and the relevant NPSs for this proposed development are the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) and the National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5). The NPSs set out national policy against which proposals for major energy projects will be assessed by the Planning Inspectorate and decided by the Secretary of State.

More information on the planning process for NSIPs can be found at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Before submitting an application, the 2008 Act requires developers, such as SP Manweb, to carry out consultation with local communities and statutory consultees. The early involvement of local communities, local authorities and statutory consultees allows an applicant to obtain important information about the economic, social and environmental impacts of a scheme from consultees so that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into the proposed development before an application is submitted.

As part of this process, the Planning Inspectorate will follow a number of steps to receive and review the application, and seek further comment from interested bodies and individuals.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Development

The development is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development as defined in The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009, as amended. An EIA is being undertaken to ensure the likely effects of the proposed development are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation can be put in place. The proposed application will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the results of the EIA.

A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which sets out survey methodologies and results, and the likely significant environmental effects of the proposed development, has been produced and copies of the PEIR will be made available on SP Manweb's website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire) and reference copies provided at the various locations as detailed below as part of this consultation.

4. Consultation to date

SP Manweb is committed to early engagement with communities and has already provided local people with an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

Stage One Consultation

The Stage One Consultation commenced in June 2016 and enabled people living in the area to comment and influence SP Manweb's proposals while they were still at an early stage. It followed two years of previous assessment work that had established where to reinforce the network, identified a number of route corridors and then possible line route options. This led to a preferred line route being put forward at the Stage One Consultation.

Stage One Consultation and the work that had informed it was outlined in the following reports published at the start of the consultation:

- **Strategic Options Report (dated May 2016)** – this report detailed the options considered for reinforcing the network in North Shropshire and the reasons for the preferred design
- **Route Corridor Report (dated June 2016)** – this report set out work carried out in 2015 and early 2016 to consider alternative route corridors for the required upgrade of the electricity supply in North Shropshire
- **Line Route Report (dated June 2016)** – this report set out work that was carried out to identify and assess alternative line route options for the proposed 132,000 Volt electrical circuit.

At the start of the Stage One Consultation, **Project Update One (dated June 2016)**, (a community newsletter that introduced the project, outlined background work and provided details about the Stage One Consultation) was sent to around 3,000 homes, businesses and other stakeholders.

SP Manweb consulted on the preferred line route; likely environmental impacts of the preferred line route and its associated construction works; other line route options that had been considered; and the approach to consultation. The Stage One Consultation asked people to provide comments on the effects the proposals might have on the local area, such as farming, communities, the landscape, wildlife and ecology, and tourism.

Over the 10 week consultation 68 individual responses (40 emails, 21 hardcopy feedback forms, three online feedback forms and four letters), making over 120 comments, were received. 79 people also attended 4 public events in Cockshutt, Wem, Hordley and Whittington, and provided a variety of comments.

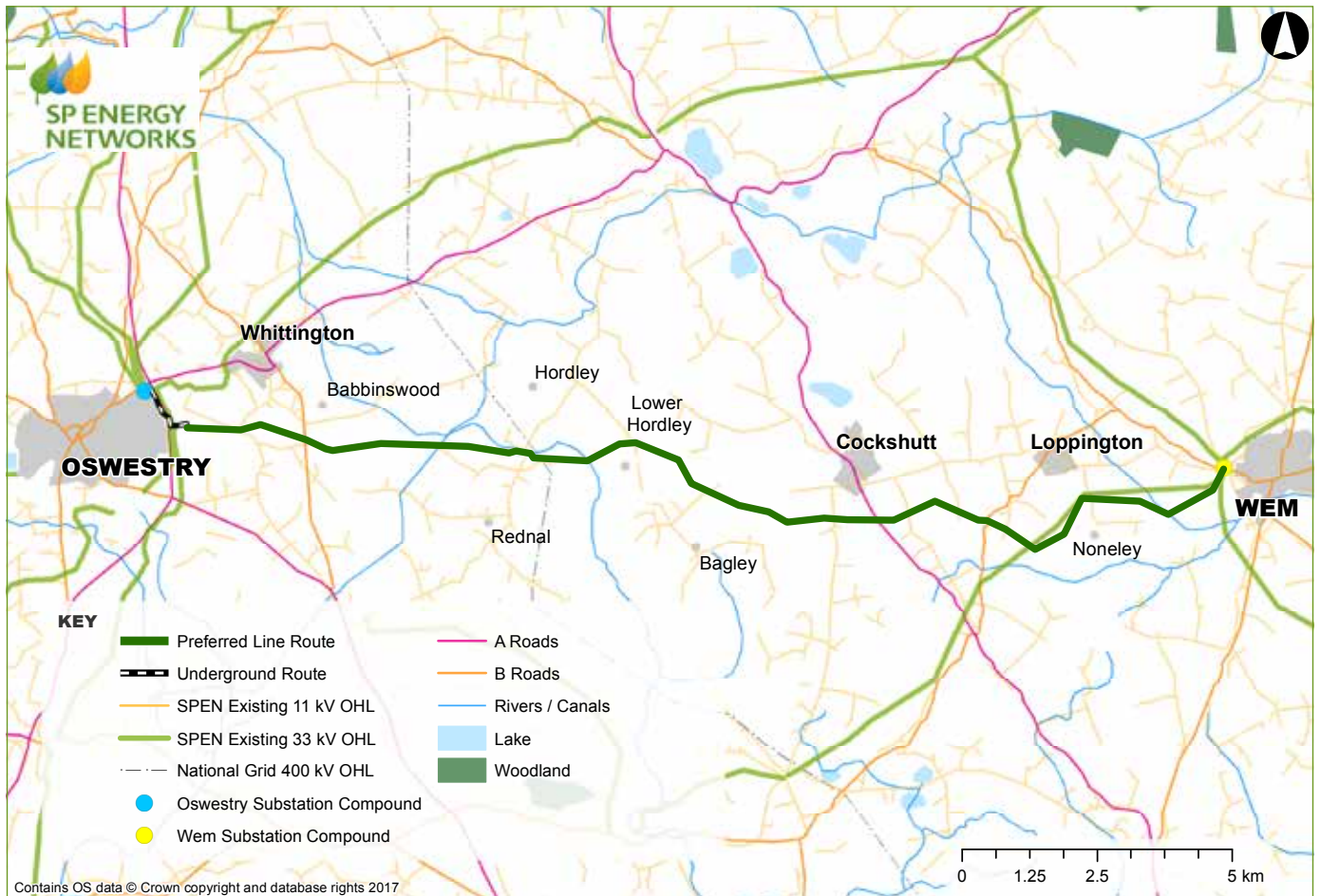
Following a review of all of the feedback received, SP Manweb carried out further assessments of suggested changes to the line route and this work resulted in an amended line route. This work was explained in:

- **Stage One Consultation Feedback Report, November 2016** – this report outlined the scope of the informal Stage One Consultation and the review of feedback received
- **Updated Line Route Report, November 2016** – this report identified a 100 metre wide line route based on further assessment work
- **Project Update Two (November 2016)** – this community newsletter summarised the Stage One Consultation, explained the feedback received and how this was considered when developing the revised 'preferred line route'

Following the publication of the above documents in November 2016, SP Manweb has continued discussions with local people and land owners and undertaken more specialist landscape and visual, ecological and historic assessments of the alternative line design options suggested. In particular, this has included looking closely at the preferred route near Noneley, Lower Hordley and the Woodhouse Estate.

SP Manweb continued to engage through meetings with local people and landowners on the alternative options near Noneley, Lower Hordley and the Woodhouse Estate. SP Manweb then considered it appropriate to present these options in **Project Update Three** in May 2017 and to seek feedback on these options. SP Manweb allowed feedback to be submitted up to the end of July by which time it had received around 26 responses, the bulk of which related to the Noneley option. SP Manweb then considered the feedback alongside its further technical environmental and design assessment.

The preferred line route as now published with an indicative preferred line alignment for the 132,000 Volt cable and overhead wood pole line, including construction working areas and accesses and undergrounding of existing lower voltage overhead lines, takes account of this latest feedback from local people and landowners and the further assessment work carried out by SP Manweb.



Existing Network and Preferred Line Route for the new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit

5. Our Statutory Consultation

Overview

The Statutory Consultation is being carried out in accordance with the requirements of the 2008 Act. This is anticipated to be the final development-wide consultation before SP Manweb makes an application for a DCO.

This consultation is to help people living in the vicinity of the proposed development to understand it and any effects it may have. This gives local people an opportunity to provide further feedback on the proposed development and to influence it.

What SP Manweb is consulting on

The aim of the statutory consultation is to present and seek feedback on the proposed development. Whilst SP Manweb will consider all comments submitted as part of the consultation, SP Manweb is specifically seeking comments on the following:

- The preferred route for the new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit between Oswestry and Wem, comprising of an approximately 1.2 kilometre underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an approximately 21 kilometre overhead wood pole Trident line, between Round Wood and Wem substation, consisting of around 176 wood poles with an average height of 12 metres;
- The location of the temporary construction works areas, such as areas where conductor winching equipment will need to be placed, and construction accesses and laydown areas along the preferred line route; and
- The installation of lower voltage underground cables to replace existing lower voltage overhead lines where the proposed development would be too close to existing lower voltage lines.

Feedback will also be sought on:

- the likely environmental impacts of the proposed development as set out in the PEIR;
- the proposed development's associated construction works;
- SP Manweb's approach to consultation; and
- any other aspects of the proposed development that consultees suggest SP Energy Networks should consider.

When SP Manweb is consulting

SP Manweb is consulting on the proposed development for 10 weeks, between **23 November 2017** and **2 February 2018**.

Where SP Manweb is consulting

SP Manweb considers that an area of approximately one kilometre from the northerly and southerly edges of the route corridors published in the **Route Corridor Report June 2016** is an appropriate consultation boundary to the north and south of the proposed development for the Statutory Consultation.

At the easterly (Wem) and westerly (Oswestry) edges of the consultation boundary, SP Manweb has included existing properties on the edge of the two towns that have potential views onto the proposed development who may be affected and it gives them an opportunity to comment. A map of this consultation zone is available in **Appendix 2** and below.

Community consultation activities are focused on this consultation zone and SP Manweb is engaging with those living and working in the consultation zone. A newsletter will be mailed to all residential and business addresses within the consultation zone and consultation events will take place in the main communities in this zone.

SP Manweb recognises that there may be interest in the proposed development beyond the consultation zone. The proposed development will therefore be promoted beyond the consultation zone through press releases to local newspapers with a wider circulation than the consultation zone and through engagement with parish councils and the Shropshire Council, whose administrative boundaries extend beyond the consultation zone.

All information will also be available on the proposed development's website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire).



Consultation zone

Who SP Manweb is consulting

Consulting with people living near to the proposals, who may be affected by the development, is an important part of the DCO planning process. Section 47 of the Act describes these as people “*living in the vicinity of the land to which the proposed application relates*”.

The consultation zone takes into account this requirement and SP Manweb will consult with the following people and groups:

- **Local communities** – people with homes and businesses in the consultation zone and those outside who have previously commented on the proposals;
- **Elected representatives** – parish and town councils; county councillors; Members of Parliament; and Members of the European Parliament (**Appendix 3**);
- **Hard to reach groups** – individuals and groups that may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons (**Appendix 3**);
- **Identified special interest groups** – such as local wildlife, heritage and leisure groups (**Appendix 3**).

How SP Manweb will consult

SP Manweb will consult using a variety of methods to help explain its proposals and encourage people to provide their comments.

Community materials

These materials will help people to understand SP Manweb’s proposed development and provide their comments to the consultation. They will be easy to follow and, where appropriate, make strong use of images and graphics.

- **Project Update Four** – this newsletter will provide a summary of the latest proposals, details of the consultation and will include an A2 fold-out map of the proposed development. It will make clear how people can take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback is. The newsletter will be sent to homes and businesses in the consultation zone and will be made available on the website, in local libraries and at consultation events.
 - **Feedback form** – this questionnaire will provide an easy way for people to record and submit their feedback. The feedback form will be designed to encourage people to provide feedback in relation to the aspects of the proposals SP Manweb is consulting on but also to provide wider feedback in relation to the entirety of the proposed development.
 - **Website** – the website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire) will be updated to explain the latest proposals and provide the latest documents for people to download. It will also include maps of the proposals and details of where people can view hard copy materials.
-

Community events

To give local people the opportunity to meet the SP Manweb team, better understand the proposals and ask any questions they may have, consultation events will be held in the local area. These events will be organised in the villages and towns closest to the proposals.

People will be able to take copies of Project Update Four and feedback forms away with them. There will also be an opportunity for people to submit their feedback form at the event.

The events will be located at accessible public locations throughout the consultation zone. SP Manweb is holding a number of events, including one on a Saturday, to give people as much chance as possible to attend.

The exhibitions, which will be publicised in the newsletter and on the website, will be held at the following locations and times:

Date	Venue	Address	Time
Saturday 2 December	Wem Town Hall	28-32 High St, Wem, Shrewsbury SY4 5DG	11am-4pm
Tuesday 5 December	Whittington Community Centre	Station Road, Whittington SY11 4DA	4.30pm-8pm
Wednesday 6 December	Hordley and Bagley Village Hall	Lower Hordley, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9BQ	2.30pm-6.30pm
Tuesday 12 December	Cockshutt Memorial Hall	Ellesmere SY12 0JQ	2.30pm-6.30pm
Wednesday 13 December	Eastern Oswestry Community Centre	Cabin Lane, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 2LQ	4pm-8pm

Reference locations

SP Manweb community materials, maps, technical reports and plans will be available to view at the following locations throughout the consultation period:

Venue	Address	Opening hours
Wem Library	3 High Street, Wem, Shrewsbury SY4 5AA	Tues: 10am-5pm Thurs: 10am-5pm Fri: 2pm-5pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm Closed: Mon, Weds, Sun
Oswestry Library	9 Arthur Street, Oswestry SY11 1JN	Mon: 9.30am-5pm Tues: 9.30am-5pm Weds: 9.30am-6pm Thurs: 9.30am-5pm Fri: 9.30am-5pm Sat: 9.30am-4pm Closed: Sun
Ellesmere Library	Trimpley Street, Ellesmere SY12 0AE	Tues: 10am-6pm Fri: 10am-5pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm; 2pm-4pm Closed: Mon, Weds, Thurs, Sun
Whitchurch Library	High Street, Whitchurch SY13 1AX	Mon: 9.30am-5pm Tues: 9.30am-6pm Thurs: 9.30am-5pm Fri: 9.30am-5pm Sat: 9.30am-1pm Closed: Weds, Sun
Shropshire Council Planning Department	Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 6ND	Mon-Fri: 8:30am-5pm Closed: Sat, Sun
Oswestry Town Council	The Guildhall, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1PZ	Mon-Thurs: 9am-5pm Fri: 9am-4pm Closed: Sat, Sun

Enquiries and information

SP Manweb will operate a freephone enquiry line during the consultation (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) with an answer phone service outside of these hours and during holiday periods. A dedicated email address and freepost is also available.

- **Freephone** – 0800 804 4666
- **Email** – enquiries@spennorthshropshire.co.uk
- **Freepost** – FREEPOST SPEN NSR (please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)

Publicising the consultation

- **Project Update Four** – the newsletter will be sent to homes and businesses in the consultation zone as well as to parish councils. It will include details of community events, where to find more information on the proposed development and how to take part in the consultation.
- **Press releases** – news releases will be issued to the local media during the consultation. A press release will be issued at the start of consultation and another two weeks before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part. The press releases will be issued to publications including *Shropshire Star*, *Oswestry and Border Counties Advertiser* and the *Whitchurch Herald*.
- **Public notices** – SP Manweb will also take out public notices in local and national newspapers, as required by the 2008 Act.

Hard to reach groups

SP Manweb has developed the consultation to be accessible and this has played an important role in planning consultation activities. Community events are being held in accessible public locations and over a number of days to encourage attendance.

It is important that people are able to take part in the consultation, even if they cannot make a consultation event. Therefore, all community materials and technical reports will be available on the website. People will be able to ask questions and find out more by calling the enquiry line or using the freepost or email addresses.

SP Manweb recognises that some individuals or groups may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. It has identified a number of organisations representing hard to reach groups in the area (**Appendix 3**). The hard to reach organisations will be written to at the start of the consultation. Requests for specific consultation activities will be planned and agreed with the requesting organisation so that it best meets the needs of its members.

Project Update Four is available in large print upon request.

Requests for documents

SP Manweb will respond to reasonable requests for further copies of documents. Requests for hard copies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable copying charge may apply, to be paid by the recipient in advance.

Technical reports

A number of technical reports will be produced to support the proposed line route and other aspects of the proposed development. These are detailed planning documents written by specialists to explain the decisions made and how technical assessments have informed these decisions.

These documents will be available on the website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire) and at reference locations. The technical reports available will include:

- **Updated Line Route Report 2** – explains how the preferred line route has developed since 2015. A range of assessments were used to refine the technical line design and the temporary construction works.
- **Updated Strategic Options Report** – an updated review of the need for the new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit and preferred technical design. The report includes a summary of the need case as well as consideration of other technologies.
- **Preliminary Environmental Information Report** – sets out the results of initial environmental surveys and our approach to assessing potential environmental effects of the proposed development.
- **Maps** – 1:2,500 plans showing the proposed development.

Other developers' consultations

SP Manweb is not currently aware of any other consultations taking place in the area. However, if it is made aware of other activities, SP Manweb will ensure due regard is given to these.

6. Submitting feedback and what happens next

How to submit feedback

The consultation is an important opportunity for local communities to get involved and influence the proposals and help SP Manweb understand the effects of the proposals in order to establish opportunities to mitigate these.

SP Manweb is consulting between **23 November 2017** and **2 February 2018**.

There are several ways to submit feedback:

- **Feedback form** – available on the proposed development's website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire), at community events or by request from the community relations team
- **By email** – to enquiries@spennorthshropshire.co.uk
- **In writing** – to **FREEPOST SPEN NSR** (please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)

Everyone submitting their comments to us (and providing their contact details) will receive an acknowledgement that their feedback has been received.

What happens next

At the close of consultation, we will review and finalise our proposals for the proposed development, having regard to the feedback received.

If, as a result of the feedback, the proposed development changes to the extent that it is necessary to undertake further consultation, this further consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in this SoCC and targeted geographically as is appropriate to the change.

A Consultation Report will be produced that sets out how feedback from both statutory and non-statutory consultations has shaped the design of the proposed development. This Consultation Report will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the DCO application. Any comments received from consultees may therefore be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate either in part or in their entirety with the application.

When the DCO application has been submitted to, and if accepted by, the Planning Inspectorate, SP Manweb will advertise that the application has been submitted and accepted and explain the next steps in the process. Our wider project timeline is shown below.

Project timeline



7. Consultation in addition to the community consultation

In addition to the statutory requirements that have informed the preparation and publication of this SoCC, the 2008 Act requires that a number of additional groups are consulted, in addition to the community consultation. These are defined as follows and include, for example, relevant local authorities, people with an interest in the land, technical stakeholders (such as Natural England), transport authorities and emergency services.

Additional consultees

s42 (1) (a): **prescribed persons**

- Prescribed bodies as listed in Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended)
- Amongst others, the prescribed bodies to be consulted include all parish councils in whose area the proposals are sited, and adjoining councils

s42 (1) (b) and 43: **Local authorities as described in the Act**

- Local authorities, as defined under section 43, including those in whose area the proposals are sited, and adjoining local authorities

A full list of these consultees, and other interest groups SP Manweb has identified and will consult with is available in **Appendix 4**.

s42 (1) (d) and 44: **those with an interest in the land** to which the proposed application relates (such as ownership, tenancy and/or other interests)

- All persons identified as having an interest in the land to which the proposals relate, within one or more of the categories set out in section 44

s46: **Secretary of State**

- The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy will be notified, via the Planning Inspectorate, as set out in section 46

At the same time as our community consultation, we will consult these consultees directly and will be inviting them to comment on our proposals during the consultation. We'll then consider their feedback alongside the feedback we receive from the public.

SP Manweb has been, and will continue to, contact landowners and occupiers to discuss pole positions and seek to agree rights to construct, operate and maintain the new equipment, voluntarily. Where SP Manweb is unable to reach agreement, it will seek use of compulsory acquisition powers within the submitted DCO.

Appendix 1 – SoCC notice (s47)



Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network Development Consent Order

Notice of publication of Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

Have your say on SP Manweb's proposed 132,000 Volt electrical circuit from Oswestry to Wem.

SP Manweb will be publishing a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for its Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network ("the proposed development"), in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

SP Manweb plc ("SPM") is part of SP Energy Networks which owns the regulated electricity network businesses SP Manweb, SP Distribution and SP Transmission.

SPM is the licenced electricity Distribution Network Operator (DNO) which owns and manages the electricity distribution network within Cheshire, Merseyside, North Shropshire and North Wales. It is the named applicant for this proposed development.

The SoCC will explain the consultation SP Manweb intends to undertake and how people can comment on the proposed development. It will provide details of where documents can be viewed, where public events will be held and how to respond to the consultation.

This consultation will run from 23 November 2017 to 2 February 2018. Responses must be received by the closing date.

A programme of public information events will take place in the area for people to talk to SP Manweb's team and view consultation materials. These are being held from Tuesday 5 December to Wednesday 13 December 2017.

SP Manweb's community materials, maps, technical reports and plans will be available in reference locations in the local area (see table opposite).

Details of the public events and reference locations will be in the SoCC and on our website: www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire

Have your say

There are several ways to submit feedback:

- **Feedback form**
Available on the proposed development website, at community events or by request from the community relations team
- **By email**
enquiries@spennorthshropshire.co.uk
- **In writing**
FREEPOST SPEN NSR
(please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)

The proposed development

The new 132,000 Volt electrical circuit will comprise of an approximately 1.2 kilometre underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an approximately 21 kilometre wood pole line, between Round Wood and Wem substation, consisting of around 176 wood pole structures, with an average height of 12 metres.

SP Manweb will be making an application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for a Development Consent Order under the Planning Act 2008.

Public consultation

The Planning Act 2008 requires that consultation is carried out so that communities and stakeholders potentially affected by the proposed development can help to inform the way it develops. SP Manweb will be consulting on the proposed development, temporary works to enable construction, such as construction compounds, accesses and lay down areas along the proposed development, the likely environmental impacts of the proposed development and our proposals for mitigation. For this consultation SP Manweb will be consulting on the entire proposed development and any other issues people think are important and should be considered.

SP Manweb will also publish a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This report will explain the likely effects the proposed development could have on the environment, based on assessments to date, and the measures SP Manweb proposes to reduce them, where possible.

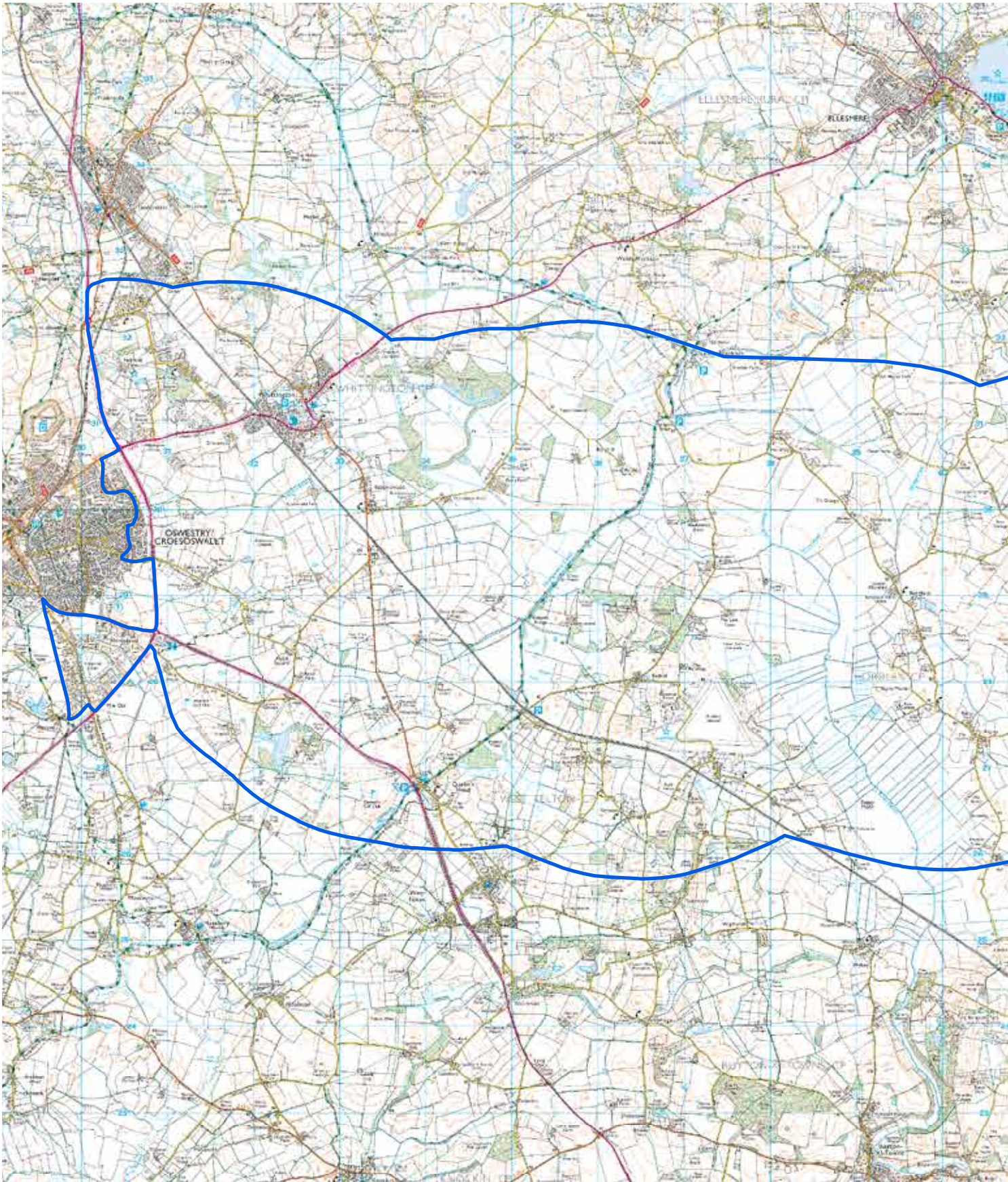
Following the consultation, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken which will assess the likely significant effects of the proposed development and the measures proposed to mitigate them. The findings of the EIA will be set out in an Environmental Statement (ES) which will accompany the development consent application(s).

Copies of the documents, plans, maps and preliminary environmental information will be available free of charge from SP Manweb on a USB stick. Reference copies will be available at the locations below. Requests for hard copies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable copying charge may apply, to be paid for by the recipient. Please contact our **community relations team (0800 804 4666)**.

The SoCC and other documents, maps and plans will be available on our website (www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire), and at the locations in the vicinity of the proposed development, below, for the duration of our consultation.

VENUE	ADDRESS	OPENING HOURS
Wem Library	3 High Street, Wem, Shrewsbury SY4 5AA	Tues: 10am-5pm, Thurs: 10am-5pm, Fri: 2pm-5pm, Sat: 9.30am-1pm, Closed: Mon, Weds, Sun
Oswestry Library	9 Arthur Street, Oswestry SY11 1JN	Mon: 9.30am-5pm, Tues: 9.30am-5pm, Weds: 9.30am-6pm, Thurs: 9.30am-5pm, Fri: 9.30am-5pm, Sat: 9.30am-4pm, Closed: Sun
Ellesmere Library	Trimpley Street, Ellesmere SY12 0AE	Tues: 10am-6pm, Friday: 10am-5pm, Saturday: 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-4pm, Closed: Mon, Weds, Thurs, Sun
Whitchurch Library	High Street, Whitchurch SY13 1AX	Mon: 9.30am-5pm, Tues: 9.30am-6pm, Thurs: 9.30am-5pm, Fri: 9.30am-5pm, Sat: 9.30am-1pm, Closed: Weds, Sun
Shropshire Council Planning Department	Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 6ND	Mon-Fri: 8.30am-5pm Closed: Sat, Sun
Oswestry Town Council	The Guildhall, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1PZ	Mon-Thurs: 9am-5pm, Fri: 9am-4pm Closed: Sat, Sun

Appendix 2 – Consultation zone





Appendix 3 – Bodies in the community consultation

Organisations representing hard to reach groups

Lakelands Academy
The Thomas Adams School
The Marches School
Positive Activities Team (Shropshire Youth)
Shropshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
Shropshire Youth Association
Age UK Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin
Shropshire Association of Senior Citizen Forums
Shropshire Housing Alliance
Meres & Moses Housing Association
Shropshire Infrastructure Partnership
Shropshire Rural Community Council
Shropshire Disability Network
Shropshire Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly
Shropshire Tourism

Town and parish councils (also consulted as prescribed persons)

Baschurch Parish Council
Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council
Ellesmere Rural Parish Council
Hordley Parish Council
Loppington Parish Council
Myddle, Broughton and Harmer Hill Parish Council
Oswestry Rural Parish Council
Oswestry Town Council
Ruyton-XI-Towns Parish Council
Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council
Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council
Wem Rural Parish Council
Wem Town Council
West Felton Parish Council
Whitchurch Town Council
Whitchurch Rural Parish Council
Whittington Parish Council

Other consultees

County Councillor for Gobowen, Selattyn and Weston Rhyn	The RSPB
County Councillor for Oswestry East	Offa's Dyke Association
County Councillor for Prees	National Trust
County Councillor for Ruyton and Baschurch	Highways Agency Historical Railways Estate
County Councillor for St Oswald	Shropshire Chamber of Commerce
County Councillor for The Meres	Oswestry Rotary Club
County Councillor for Wem	Shropshire Women's Institute
County Councillor for Whitchurch North	Shrewsbury and District Riding Club
County Councillor for Whitchurch South	Shropshire Peregrine Group
County Councillor for Whittington	Whittington History Society
Member of Parliament for North Shropshire	Wem Civic Society
Members of the European Parliament for West Midlands	Shropshire Borders District Scouts
Department for Communities and Local Government	NFU Shropshire
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)	Country Land and Business Association Limited
Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	The Ramblers - Shropshire
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Federation of Small Businesses - Shropshire, Herefordshire & Worcestershire Region
Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership	Sleap Airfield, Shropshire Aero Club Ltd
Shropshire Wildlife Trust	Shropshire Ornithological Society
The Woodland Trust	ABP UK
Open Spaces Society	Montgomery Canal Partnership
Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)	RAF Shawbury

Appendix 4 – Prescribed persons

Prescribed persons

Shropshire Council	Canal and River Trust
Powys County Council	Health & Safety Executive
Herefordshire Council	West Midlands Strategic Health Authority
Wrexham County Council	Public Health England
Cheshire West and Chester Council	NHS England
Cheshire East Council	Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council	Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Staffordshire County Council	Highways Agency Historical Railways Estate
Telford and Wrekin Council	West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
South Staffordshire Council	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Authority
Wyre Forest District Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia
Malvern Hills District Council	Equality and Human Rights Commission
Worcestershire Council	The Homes and Communities Agency (HQ)
Stafford Borough Council	The Homes and Communities Agency (Midlands)
Natural England	Crown Estates Commissioners
The Environment Agency (Midlands Region)	The Coal Authority
The Forestry Commission	Ofgem
Historic England (Birmingham office)	Marches Local Enterprise Partnership
Design Council CABE	Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (GEMA)
Highways England	Ofwat
Shropshire Council Highways	Severn Trent Water
The Civil Aviation Authority	Melverley Internal Drainage Board
Network Rail	SP Manweb Plc
West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
Transport Focus	National Grid Plc
The Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee	National Grid Gas Plc
The Office of Rail Regulation	Cadent Gas Ltd
Network West Midlands (Integrated Transport Authority)	ESP Electricity Limited

Independent Power Networks Limited
The Electricity Network Company
Western Power Distribution (West Midlands) Plc
Northern Powergrid
Energetics Gas Limited
Energetics Electricity Limited
ES Pipelines Ltd
ESP Connections Ltd
ESP Networks Ltd
ESP Pipelines Ltd
Fulcrum Pipelines Limited
GTC Pipelines Limited
Independent Pipelines Limited
LNG Portable Pipeline Services Limited
Quadrant Pipelines Ltd
SSE Pipelines
Royal Mail Group
BT Plc
NATS En-Route Safeguarding
Planning Inspectorate
MOD
Indigo Pipelines Limited
Wales & West Utilities Limited
G2 Energy IDNO Ltd
Harlaxton Energy Networks
Leep Energy Networks
UK Power Distribution Ltd
Utility Assets Ltd



Contact us:

Email us:

enquiries@spennorthshropshire.co.uk

Visit our website:

www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire

Give us a call:

0800 804 4666

Write to us:

FREEPOST SPEN NSR