

Consultation on Dun Law overhead line



SP Energy Networks is proposing to replace the existing overhead line connecting the Dun Law Windfarm to Galashiels substation.

We are consulting on the preferred route for the replacement line and would like your views on our proposals before we identify a final route and seek consent to install the replacement line.

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 North West England.

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



www.spenergynetworks.co.uk

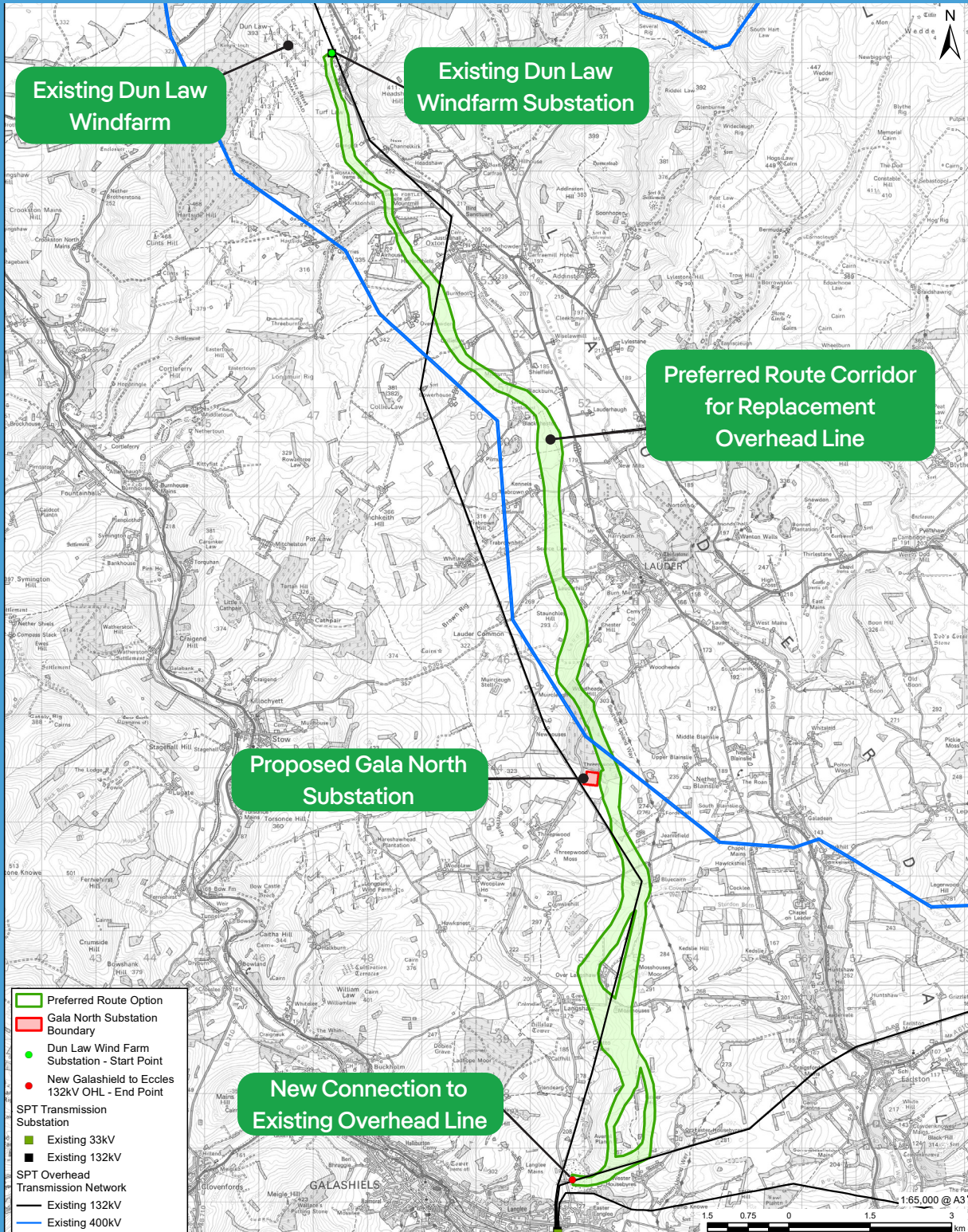
Scan the QR code to visit the virtual consultation room



What is proposed

The proposed replacement overhead line will be approximately 23km long and run from Dun Law Windfarm substation to the Galashiels substation via a proposed new substation at Gala North.

Once the replacement line has been completed, the existing line from Smeaton to Galashiels will be removed.



The project consists of:

- Construction of a new overhead line, running north-south from the substation at Dun Law Windfarm to a substation north of Galashiels
- Extension of the substation at Dun Law Windfarm
- Establishing a permanent compound north of Gala North substation
- Laying of cable from the compound to Gala North substation
- Works to connect replacement overhead line into the new Galashiels to Eccles 132kV overhead line north of Galashiels.
- Removal of the existing line from Smeaton to Galashiels.



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. They are placed approximately 300 metres apart, but the exact distance between them will vary depending on the landscape and any obstacles such as roads, rivers and railway lines.



The towers are made of galvanised steel. They are grey in colour and become duller in appearance after about 18 months.

Why the existing overhead line needs to be replaced

Power generated by the turbines is currently fed into the national grid via the Dun Law Extension substation. This substation has an entry capacity of 30MW (Megawatts). The developer has applied to re-power the windfarm to enable it to generate more electricity and a new connection entry capacity of 156MW is required.

There is no spare capacity on the existing network to accommodate the additional 126MW generated by the windfarm. We need to increase the capability of the system to enable Dun Law Windfarm to be connected to the grid and comply with our statutory and license obligations.

Assessing potential route options

We identified and assessed potential routes for the replacement line based on:

- **Technical feasibility:** our ability to build, operate and maintain the line.
- **Economic viability:** directness of any potential route and avoiding land which would present technical difficulty or require compensation adding significant cost.
- **Environmental impact:** local views and landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage, forestry and woodland, flood risk and water resources ground conditions and land use including tourism and recreation.

Identifying a preferred route

We selected the preferred route (illustrated on the opposite page) to avoid areas of the highest environmental value and settlements while also making the best use of the existing landscape and features including hills and woodland to screen routes.

Routeing and Siting consultation document

Full details of the preferred route and the alternatives we considered, our routeing strategy and the findings of our route options appraisal process are available in our Routeing and Siting Consultation Report. Download it from the project website <https://dunlaw.consultation.ai> or view at one of our information events.

How to give feedback

Please give us your feedback on our preferred route option. We will consider all comments received as we develop our final proposed alignment for the replacement overhead line.



Return the feedback form enclosed with this booklet in the freepost envelope included



Email:
dunlawext@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Use the feedback form at
<https://dunlaw.consultation.ai/> or in person at one of our information events

This consultation runs from



Public information events

We are holding three public information events for people to review our proposals in more detail, speak to members of the project team and give feedback.

Monday 24 June at Langlee Community Centre, Marigold Drive, Galashiels TD1 2LP from 3pm to 7pm.

Tuesday 25 June at Lauder Public Hall, The Avenue, Lauder, TD2 6TD from 3pm to 7pm.

Thursday 27 June at Carfraemill Hotel, nr Oxtou, Lauder, TD2 6RA from 3pm to 7pm.

These events are open to all. Please drop in at a time to suit you.

