

Delivering a Network for Net Zero

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About SSEN Transmission

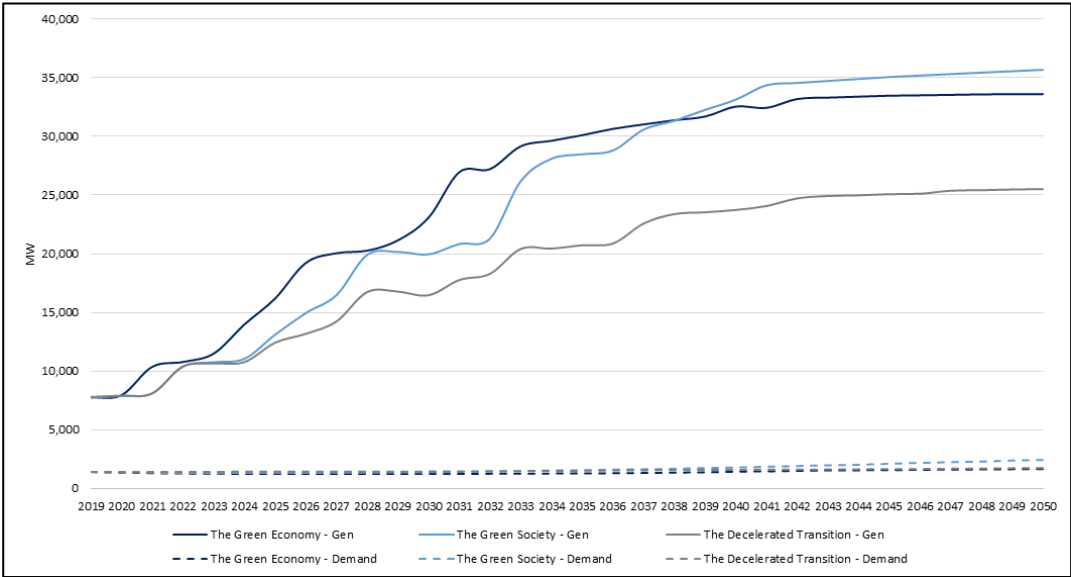
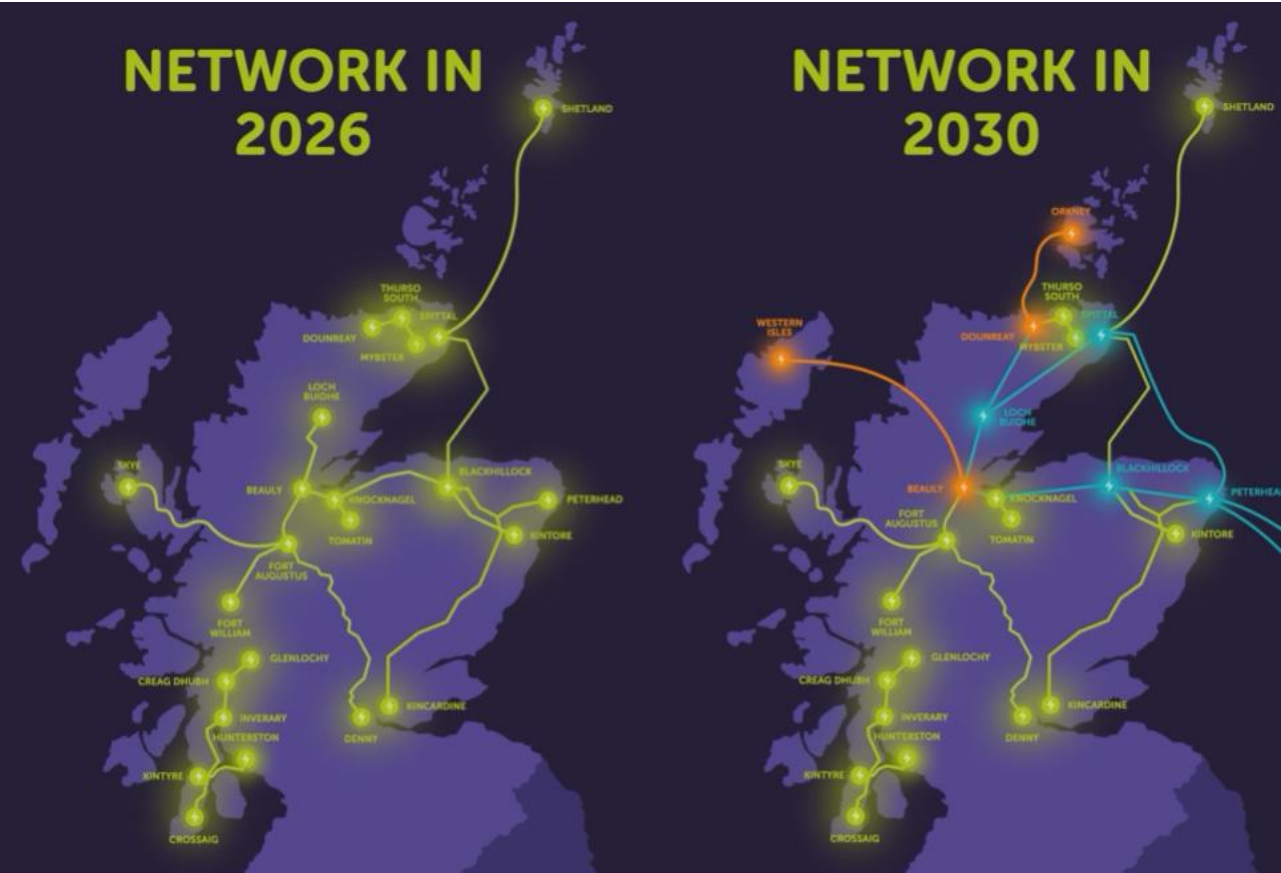
Powering change; delivering a network for net zero

- We own, operate and develop the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands.
- As a regulated business, delivering critical national infrastructure, our job is to connect the renewable energy needed to support UK and Scotland's emissions reduction targets, delivering a network for net zero.
- We're the first network company to commit to an externally accredited science-based target and the first to consult and implement a sector leading Biodiversity Net Gain strategy.
- Through the current Transmission price control, RIIO-T2, we're planning to invest at least **£2.8bn** between now and 2026, potentially increasing to over **£4bn**, to deliver a network for net zero in the north of Scotland.
- To deliver this we'll need to almost double our workforce between now and 2026.



Our purpose: delivering a network for net zero

Our network area in the north of Scotland, will play an outsized role in meeting the UK and Scotland’s renewable energy targets, contributing up to 10% of the UK Net Zero target.



Our Team



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

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A NETWORK FOR NET ZERO

A photograph of a power substation with high-voltage towers and power lines, set against a backdrop of green hills and a clear blue sky. The text "A NETWORK FOR NET ZERO" is overlaid in large white letters.

Biodiversity Net Gain



[SSEN Transmission - Biodiversity Net Gain on Vimeo](#)

Natural Environment – Case study - Spittal

Biodiversity at Spittal Substation

The habitats on the site will help to support the Great Yellow Bumblebee (*Bombus distinguendus*), one of the UK's rarest species of bumblebee. Its distribution has declined by 80% in the last century and the last mainland populations are found only in Caithness and Sutherland. The principle causes of decline are the loss of flower-rich meadows and the intensification of farming and grazing practices. These habitats are self sustaining and require little or no active management.



Wildflower Seeding

In line with the aims of the Scottish Government's Pollinator Strategy, the biodiversity strategy at the site has included wildflower seeding that will provide foraging and nesting habitat for pollinators such as the Great Yellow Bumblebee and other wildlife from moths to Goldfinches. There are 29 species in our wildflower mix which encourage long-lasting plant life and reduce the growth of grasses.

Tree and scrub Planting

Over 20,000 trees and scrub plants have been planted across the area. The following tree species have been planted: Downy birch, Alder, Rowan, Aspen and Bird cherry.

Rare scrub habitat

This habitat is being created using the following species: Eared willow, Grey willow, Goat willow, Hazel, Hawthorn and Blackthorn. It is hoped to encourage rare, local plants and invertebrates as well as valuable nesting and feeding habitats for various birds.

Swallows

Swallows use the pond and wetland to feed and nest around the buildings. British swallows spend their winter in South Africa - they travel through western France, across the Pyrenees, down eastern Spain into Morocco and across the Sahara. Migrating swallows cover 200 miles a day, mainly during daylight, at speeds of 17-22 miles per hour.

Wetland Creation

A large area of pond and wetland has been established at the south west of the site which will be an important habitat for birds, aquatic insects, amphibians and foraging for bats.

Pine Marten

Pine Marten can be found in the woodland adjacent to the site. The planted areas will in time extend the available habitat. They prefer woodland habitats, climbing very well and living in tree holes, old squirrel dreys or old birds' nests. It feeds on small rodents, birds, eggs, insects and fruit. During the summer mating season, they make shrill, cat-like calls. The following spring, the female will have a litter of between one to five kits, which are independent by autumn.



Woodland



Not for profit (3rd Sector) - Example



act argyll & the isles
coast & countryside trust

Argyll's Rainforest

Project Lead: Argyll & Isles Coast and Countryside Trust Location: Argyll
Funding Needed: £1.8 million
Project Timescale: 2021-2026



SF₆ Alternatives



Kintore Substation
Carbon reduction

VISTA Project



Killin - In development

Removal of 132kV overhead line infrastructure by installing underground cables behind the village of Killin (9km).

Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park

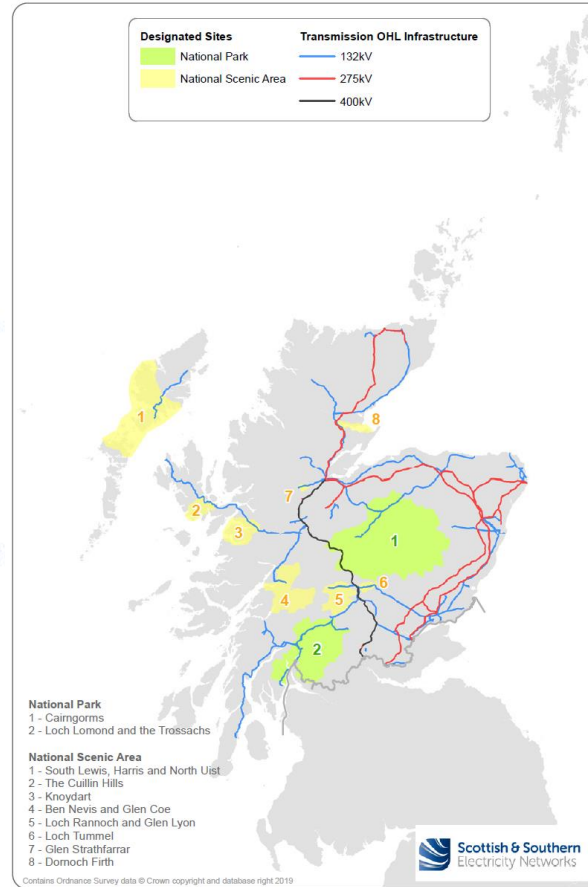


Glen Strathfarrar - In development

Removal of 132kV overhead line infrastructure by installing underground cables from Deanie Power along the side of Loch Beannacharan (3.5km).

Glen Strathfarrar NSA

Glen Falloch final tower removal



1

Identifying Priorities

- Identification of transmission infrastructure;
- Screening of transmission infrastructure;
- Initial Landscape & Visual Assessment;
- Identify most important impacts.

2

Defining the Projects

- Review priority areas;
- Identify mitigation options;
- Appraisal of options & potential benefits;
- Selection of infrastructure & mitigation proposals to be progressed.

3

Developing the Projects

- Review priority proposals in more detail;
- Technical, Environmental & Economic Feasibility Studies;
- Detailed development of projects in collaboration with Stakeholders.

4

Consent & Implementation of Projects

- Consultation with consultees & authorities;
- Environmental Assessment (EA);
- Consent applications;
- Submission of Projects to Ofgem.
- Implementation - construction & maintenance.

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**NET ZERO
AWARD**

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Planning: an enabler for net zero

- Scotland's planning framework has been **fundamental** in supporting the Scottish Government's world leading climate targets to date – huge success story.
- **However levels of investment in renewables and grid will be unprecedented to support 2030 targets and beyond** – timescales will be challenging based on current processes.
- **NPF4** is a key opportunity to address current challenges, working with communities and wider stakeholders.
- In addition, the UK Government's recent **British Energy Security Strategy** outlines commitments to accelerate consenting timescales for offshore wind projects from 4 years to 1 – and reduce timescales for onshore transmission projects by 3 years.
- Vital that consenting timescales in Scotland are also **rapidly accelerated, and resources increased** to match this level of ambition and ensure a level playing field for projects that enable decarbonisation in Scotland.



Thanks for your time – questions?



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