

By eplanning only

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc.  
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28 February 2025

Dear Sirs,

**Proposed Construction and Operation of a Strategic Electricity Transmission Hub Consisting of a 400kV AC Substation, an HVDC Converter Station, and the Associated Undertaking of Earthworks, the Formation of Platforms, Landscaping, Means of Access, Means of Enclosure, Site Drainage, Temporary Construction Compounds, Peatland Reinstatement and Improvement and Other Associated Operations (National Development)**

**Site: Land to the South of Macaulay Farm, Arnish Moor, Isle Of Lewis**

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), operating under licence held by Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc, as operators and developers of the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands is pleased to submit an application for Planning Permission in Principle for the development described above. The application constitutes a national planning application under the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 being of a size that qualifies as such under the specific wording of National Developments 1 and 3 in National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4).

The application is for the erection of a Strategic Electricity Transmission Hub including 400kV AC Substation, 132kV AC Substation, a HVDC Converter Station, and Ancillary Works (National Development). The proposed development has been subject of pre-application discussion on 10 October 2024 consisting of a round table meeting with relevant CnES departments. In addition, EIA Scoping was undertaken under ref: 24/00325/SCOPING. A Proposal of Application Notice was submitted and recorded under ref: 24/00289/PAN.

The Proposed Development is being driven by the requirement to connect an increasing volume of renewable energy generation in the north of Scotland and the Islands to the electricity network, which necessitates significant upgrades to the transmission network. The proposed Lewis Hub would substantially strengthen the local transmission network and support new onshore and offshore connections, such as those created through the Scotwind offshore lease rounds, in addition to facilitating the export of future renewable generation from the Outer Hebrides to demand centres throughout the UK.

In preparing the application, a validation meeting was held with Mrs Morag Ferguson on 20 January 2025 where it was agreed that the validation requirements for PPIp are Application Forms and relevant land ownership information, a fee, a location Plan, Site Plans and a PAC Report along with relevant Regulation 15 notices. As discussed at the time Grazing Clerks of relevant Common Grazings have been notified as Agricultural Tenants in addition to land owner notifications. The Applicant has

provided supplementary information in addition to these requirements in the form of an EIA Report and other technical information to adequately inform the Planning Authority and key consultees and regulators in the decision-making process. All legislative requirements are therefore met with regard to the content of the application package.

Hard copies of the EIA Report will be deposited at your Stornoway Office (2 Copies) at Sandwick Road and at Stornoway Library (1 Copy) as discussed previously.

The fee for the planning application has been calculated in accordance with recent changes in fee structure implemented by the Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2024. The fee has been calculated on the basis of maximum fee of £86 428 or construction of non-residential buildings, structures and erections. The fee was paid to CnES on 11 February 2025 under reference 100699758 (eplanning reference).

I look forward to confirmation of valid receipt of the application. Should you have any immediate queries on the application please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or Mairi Rigby (Senior Consent Environment Manager) [mairi.rigby@sse.com](mailto:mairi.rigby@sse.com). I will contact you separately regarding whether you would like to enter into a planning processing agreement.

Yours faithfully,

**Murray Agnew**  
**Town Planning Specialist**  
**Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission**

*Sent via eplanning*