



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Document Reference

Submarine Cables

Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution Pre-application Consultation Report Hoy North & Centre Submarine Cables



Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth PH1 3AQ  **ssn.co.uk**

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Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc Registered in Scotland No. SC213461; Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc Registered in Scotland No. SC213460; (all
having their Registered Offices at Inveralmond House 200 Dunkeld Road Perth PH1 3AQ); and Southern Electric Power Distribution plc Registered in England & Wales
No. 04094290 having their Registered Office at No. 1 Forbury Place 43 Forbury Road Reading RG1 3JH which are
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			Distribution ✓	Transmission
Revision: 1	Classification: Public	Issue Date: August 2021	Review Date: August 2024	

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1. Pre-Application Consultation Event Presentation
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1. Introduction

- 1.1** Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc (SHEPD) holds a licence under the Electricity Act 1989 for the distribution of electricity in the north of Scotland including the Islands. It has a statutory duty to provide an economic and efficient system for the distribution of electricity and to ensure its assets are maintained so as to ensure a safe, secure, reliable supply to customers.
- 1.2** Two of three existing 33kV submarine electricity cables connecting Mainland Orkney to Hoy, the Centre and North cables were installed in 1982 and 1977 respectively. Both cables are nearing the end of their operational life. This has been verified through our existing asset records and following recent visual inspections of the cables. The existing cables are therefore a priority for replacement to maintain a safe and reliable supply of electricity to customers.
- 1.3** Surveys were undertaken during 2017 and 2018, including offshore, nearshore and both landings. Visual inspections were undertaken using an ROV. Where the cable was found to be buried, the cable route and depth was recorded using the multibeam echosounder. Bathymetric surveys were also conducted.
- 1.4** According to Scottish and Southern Electricity Network's (SSEN) Vulnerability Mapping tool, Hoy is within the highest quartile for Fuel Poverty in Scotland, with more than a third (35%) of the population of pensionable age, a fifth of whom live alone (20%). Hoy has an estimated 146 households on the Priority Service Register (PSR), with an estimate of a further 74 eligible households.
- 1.5** The island also has a Social Isolation score of 7.8 (out of 10) and is ranked in the highest decile for Combined Distance to Services and Access to Health Services. Around a third (33%) of the population is in low income employment.
- 1.6** The cable will help to support SSEN's ambition of a transition to net zero carbon emissions and will play an active role in delivering the UK and Scottish Governments' respective 2050 and 2045 targets.
- 1.7** This Pre-application Consultation Report has been prepared to accompany an application for a proposed licensable marine activity in accordance with section 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 1.8** As part of the marine licencing process, SHEPD has undertaken engagement with the general public and all interested stakeholders. This report demonstrates how all views have been considered and influenced this application.

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1.9 The output of the Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) model helps to demonstrate to stakeholders that the method(s) proposed for installing this submarine electricity cable justifies the expenditure and provides best value. We define best value as the method(s) of installation which satisfy all current legislation and provides a sustainable balance of economic, safety and wider social and economic impacts.

1.10 This document should be read in conjunction with the:

- *Marine Licence Application Form*
- *Project Description*
- *Marine Environmental Appraisal*
- *Fishing Liaison and Mitigation Action Plan (covering all legitimate sea users)*
- *Construction Environment Management Plan*
- *Operation, Inspection, Maintenance and Decommissioning Strategy*
- *Cost Benefit Analysis*

2. Proposed licensable marine activity

2.1 Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc (SHEPD) proposes to install two replacement 33kV submarine electricity cables connecting Mainland Orkney to Hoy, the Centre and North cables.

1.8 These replacement submarine electricity cables are essential in securing power supplies to customers and communities on the island of Hoy.

1.9 The application for the Marine Licence is being submitted to permit the cable to be installed within a 500m wide corridor. A detailed information on the cable installation, burial and protection can be found in the Project Description included in this Marine Licence submission.

3. Applicant Details

3.1 Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc

Kevin Galbraith
Head of Subsea Cable Project Delivery

Inveralmond House

200 Dunkeld Road

Perth

PH1 3AQ

Tel: 01738 341 888

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Mob: 07584 313584

Email: submarinecables@sse.com

- 3.2 Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc a company registered in Scotland under number SC213460.

4. Proposed Licensee Details

- 4.1 As per applicant details.

5. Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Event

- 5.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the current physical distancing and travel guidance in place, regulations for a pre-application consultation event to be held at suitably accessible venue were amended under the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 ("the 2013 PAC Regulations"). Provisions have been amended by The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, which came into force on the 20 May 2020. Under these amending regulations, where a pre-application consultation event must be held, this this was now to be held online.
- 5.2 SHEPD therefore went to great efforts to identify the most robust of formats through which to best deliver the event. The consultation was to be held through a series of 50-minute long sessions and advertised as a public notice six weeks in advance of the event, as required by Marine Scotland. A copy of the PAC event notice can be found in Appendix A: Pre-application Consultation Notice.
- 5.3 The PAC event notice was published:
- In the local newspapers¹, *The Orcadian* on Thursday 11th March
 - on the project website (<https://www.ssen.co.uk/subseacables/>)
- 5.4 In order to promote the online PAC event to a wider audience the consultation was promoted using other print and digital platforms:
- run of paper advert (ROP)² was published in *The Orcadian* on Thursday 22nd April
 - direct mailing invites³ issued to more than 35 stakeholders

¹ Copies of the PAC Public Notices can be found in *Appendix A Section 1*.

² Copies of the ROP Newspaper Adverts can be found in *Appendix B Section 1*.

³ Copies of the Direct Mailing Invites can be found in *Appendix B Section 3*.

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- article posted on SSEN website⁴
 - multiple social media posts issued⁵
- 5.5 The absence however, of a commercial radio station in the Orkney Islands meant that we were unable to promote the event through radio advertising, as had been the case with other recent PAC events. An invitation, with the project and event details had also been issued to the local BBC Orkney station.
- 5.6 The Pre-application events took the format of an online presentation. The Learning Tree platform had been identified as the best resource for engagement. The platform offered the following features:
- Clear presentation area
 - Chat box for ongoing engagement throughout
 - Potential for Break Out Rooms to better discuss key issues eg. Fisheries, Environment etc
 - Live video Question and Answer sessions
 - Chime In button to identify request to ask questions/raise points during presentation
 - Support button allowing participants to have technical issues addressed by Learning Tree team
 - Recording of the full meeting for potential future use⁶
- 5.7 The main presentation element was followed by a question and answer session, with the presentation slides covering the following areas:
- Location of the existing cable to be replaced
 - The corridor in which it is proposed to lay the replacement cable
 - Methods of cable installation and protection suited to the cable location
 - Environmental and Marine Environment considerations
 - How stakeholders could provide comments and the date for final submission
 - How the Cost Benefit Analysis model works and how it will form part of the evidence to be used in the licence application to balance stakeholder views and inform the cable installation and protection designs

⁴ Copies of the Website Article and statistics can be found in *Appendix B Section 4*.

⁵ Copies of the Social Media posts and statistics can be found in *Appendix B Section 5*.

⁶ A URL link to view the PAC event can be found in *Appendix C Section 5*.

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6. Pre-Application Consultation Stakeholder/Consultee Meetings

6.1 A series of stakeholder events has been held in parallel with the planning and delivery of the online PAC event, as detailed in Table 1: Stakeholder Project Consultation Events.

These online meetings were held to enable interested organisations, particularly consultees, to comment on our proposed cable replacement programme. Meetings were targeted at statutory consultees, legitimate sea user organisations, environmental organisations, marine bodies, and non-governmental organisations. Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, meetings were held online utilising the Microsoft Teams platform.

6.2 *Table 1: Stakeholder Project Consultation Events*

Date	Organisation	Attendees	Minutes ⁷
30/07/21	SFF	Malcolm Morrison	
	OFA	Hannah Fennell	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/39724627
	SWFPA	Femke de Boer	
21/06/21	Historic Environment Scotland	Alison Baisden	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/39534323
31/05/21	SFF	Malcolm Morrison	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/Overview/39186900
	SWFPA	Femke de Boer	
27/05/21	Crown Estates Scotland	Darren Hirst	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/39136425
19/05/21	OFA	Hannah Fennell	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/39734535
21/04/21	SEPA	Alex Candlish	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38544473
19/04/21	SFF	Malcolm Morrison	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38553979
31/03/21	WIFA	Duncan Macinnes	
	RSSLA	Neil Robertson	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38373667
	SWFPA	Femke De Boer	
08/04/21	MCA	Thomas Bulpit	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38403008
	NLB	Gillian Burns	
08/04/21		Erica Knott	

⁷ Minutes of meetings available on request.

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NatureScot		Kirstie Dearing	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38411121
		Ian Cornforth	
25/02/21	Crown Estates Scotland	Darren Hirst	https://imscs16/otcs/llisapi.dll/link/38277205

6.3 Following these meetings consultees were issued with specially designed Feedback Forms⁸ to allow them to more easily provide their views and opinions on the project. Minutes of these meetings were also recorded and distributed to the participant organisations along with a copy of the presentation. This was in order to allow them to better distribute the messaging with their colleagues/members.

6.4 Our online Pre-application consultation Stakeholder/Consultee meetings used a standard slide deck to enable relevant information to be shared with delegates. *Table 1: Stakeholder/Consultee Project Engagement Meetings* provides information on those organisations directly engaged regarding the project, the meeting participant(s), date of meeting and links to associated minutes should they be required. The table outlines the breadth of consultation undertaken above and beyond the online community engagement event held on Thursday 29th of April 2021.

7. Information received by prospective applicant at Pre-Application Consultation Events

7.1 Information received across all the Pre-application Consultation events is summarised below:

7.2 Health & Safety

- No specific queries raised under Health & Safety

7.3 Socio-economic

- Orkney Islands Council (OIC) were pleased to be engaged with, find out more about the project and had no further queries.
- Crown Estates Scotland (CES) advised it would be helpful to submit, in advance of the Marine Scotland application, shapefiles/ RPLs of existing cables at the same time as issuing the proposed new cable routes when seeking wayleave agreements. This would allow timely conflict checks to be undertaken.

⁸ SSSEN Feedback Form example available in *Appendix D Section 1*.

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7.4 Environmental

- RSPB requested information on timing of Hoy N&C Project and whether it was being delivered out with breeding bird season.
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES) outlined that in regard to Hoy North & Centre projects, SSEN could potentially be dealing with submerged landscapes and that they would have concerns if seabed cores were to be taken.
- SSEN provided SFF, SWFPA and OFA with a brief timeline, with the intention to begin installation works from early December onwards.

7.5 Wider economic and engineering

- OIC asked how SSEN identifies the routing and design of cables.
- OIC asked why SSEN had identified cables for replacement.
- CES advised that wayleaves can be granted in advance of the works and this would be preferable but is recognised that this is not always possible, particularly in areas where installation challenges may mean final route amendments from those proposed.
- SSEN advised SFF and OFA that it was replacing operational cables, and that both cables would be surface laid. SSEN outlined that some rock bags/concrete mattresses would be required.

7.6 Decommissioning

- NS asked in regard to all forthcoming projects whether the existing cables would be removed following completion of the new cable installation projects.

8. Clarifications to the application following comments and/or objections received at Pre-Application Consultation events

8.1 The following amendments have been made following comments received at Pre-application Consultation Events (PAC Events):

8.2 Health & Safety

- No specific queries raised under Health & Safety

8.3 Socio-economic

- SSEN agreed to work closely with CES, meeting regularly and maintaining contact out with meeting structure as best practice approach advised by CES.

8.4 Environmental

- SSEN advised that projects would be delivered to avoid bird breeding season. RSPB welcomed timing of projects.
- SSEN advised HES that as the cables were to be surface laid then no intrusive coring had been done. HES agreed this alleviated their concerns.

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- OFA informed SSEN that they were satisfied with the project outline and advised that they were aware of two mobile (nephrops) fishermen in the area.

8.5 Wider economic and engineering

- SSEN explained that this followed an extensive programme of survey work and expert engineering.
- OFA informed SSEN that they were satisfied with the project outline

8.6 Decommissioning

- SSEN advised NS that the removal of redundant cables is considered on a project-by-project basis. Ongoing discussion regarding long-term decommissioning will continue.

9. Explanation of approach taken where, following comment and/or objection, no relevant amendment has been made

9.1 The output of SHEPD's Cost Benefit Analysis Methodology⁹ (CBA) helps to demonstrate to stakeholders that the method(s) proposed for installing this submarine electricity cable justifies the expenditure and provides best value. We define best value as the method(s) of installation which satisfy all current legislation and provides a sustainable balance of economic, safety and wider social and economic impacts. The CBA model supports our marine license application by illustrating how we consider the cumulative impact of our engineering design.

9.2 Health & Safety

- The Cost Benefit Analysis methodology, used to model the impact of this cable, provides an overview of how SHEPD measure the impact of their cables on health and safety (human life). Based on the current Marine Accident Investigation Board evidence the rate of incidences is low; but the risk remains and so it is included within the Cost Benefit Analysis model as an impact. This means that SHEPD has considered the less serious, but probably more frequent, interactions with our cables and the socio-economic impact that this has for marine users.
- No works that reduce chart datum by greater than 5% will be undertaken without express agreement of Marine Scotland and Maritime Coastguard Agency.
- The *Operation, Inspection, Maintenance and Decommissioning Strategy* commits to providing Route Position Lists (RPLs) of cables and landfall locations to the UK

⁹ Which we define as best balancing the health and safety, environmental, socio-economic, wider-engineering and economic considerations whilst meeting regulatory obligation.

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Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and Kingfisher Information Service Offshore Renewables and Cables Awareness (KIS-ORCA) in order that relevant charts are updated after cable inspections. Where our inspection programme identifies that the cable has become a danger to navigation or protection of legitimate users of the sea, we will immediately inform Marine Scotland, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, UKHO, Northern Lighthouse Board and the KIS-ORCA to communicate the hazard to the maritime community.

9.3 Socio-economic

- Ofgem, as SHEPD's economic regulator, has the primary responsibility to ensure that SHEPD utilise bill payers' funds in an economic and efficient way. SHEPD continues to work with Ofgem to identify the best value solution that will balance the needs of all stakeholders, including marine users and our customer so that any investment in the distribution network is economic and efficient
- SHEPD's approach to protection is to follow the Cables 2 policy of Scotland's National Marine Plan. Where burial is not demonstrated to be feasible, we will consider all other practicable protection solutions and compare them through our cost benefit analysis model to identify the one which delivers best value.

9.4 Environmental

- Ecological protected sites and marine archaeological sites as well as priority marine features and receptors have been considered in this application.
- Potential impacts of benthic and intertidal ecology have been minimised through very small area of impact through cable installation methodology. A corridor 500m wide applied for within the *Marine Licence Application* will enable micro-routeing to avoid key features of conservation interest.
- The *Marine Environmental Appraisal* and *Construction environment management plan* and the *Cost Benefit Analysis model* consider the project with respect to the policies from the National Marine Plan.

9.5 Wider economic and engineering

- The CBA model considers the societal value of different installation methods for the Mainland Orkney – Hoy Centre submarine electricity cable. We understand that other externalities not modelled need to be considered. These include marine planning policy, final engineering design requirements (including shore end protection) and the cumulative impact of our submarine electricity cables on other legitimate marine users.

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- Based on the initial outputs of the route surveys it has been determined that there is insufficient sediment depth to allow for burial of the proposed subsea cable. The route is more fully described in the Project Description.
- Based on the On Bottom Stability Study(OBSS) and the challenges associated with insufficient sediment for burial and the likelihood of exceeding the change in water depth by more than 5% if using rock filter bags for stabilisation along most of the route, from the CBA, Option 2A represents most closely, the level of protection/stabilisation which is recommended from the OBSS and engineering studies. Although not the best societal value it is the best engineering and feasible solution in this location.
- The CBA identifies that currently any protected section of cable is predicted to last 45 years with unprotected sections lasting as long as the current install. Therefore, the whole cable will likely last the length of time of the protected sections, as based on the engineering analysis and design the protected areas are the areas most at risk of damage. Unprotected sections are less likely to be damaged, so within the CBA summary options, 3A looks at modelling all sections of the cable with a life expectancy of 45 years as per the protected sections. Option 3B considers the inputs of option 2A but looks at what societal benefit is lost or gained if the existing cable is decommissioned. Finally, due to the new installation predicted to be longer than the existing install, option 3B shows what effect this additional length has on societal value by taking option 1A and modelling the new cable type but with the original cable length.

Overall, there is an increase in the societal value, as expected, if the cable life is extended.

Therefore, the CBA assumes that the life expectancy of the new cable could be extended beyond the current installed cable, which is 38 years old, when considering that the existing cable was installed with no protection or stabilisation and that the route would not have been micro routed for the optimum cable lay location along the route.

- The replacement submarine electricity cable will also contain embedded fibre optics within its construction which assists with network management and monitoring of the cable condition. There is additional fibre optic capacity in our cables due to the number and type of fibre optics within our cable. A “Network Provider” can request access to infrastructure under the Communications (Access to Infrastructure) Regulations 2016 to any “Infrastructure Operator” in this case the proposed SHEPD cable.

9.6 Decommissioning

- With the high costs associated with a cable recovery and disposal operation, the overall project costs would increase and be passed on to SHEPD distribution customers. This cost increase will impact on fuel poverty and this affect has been modelled in the Cost

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Benefit

Analysis.

Instead, the *Operation, Inspection, Maintenance and Decommissioning Strategy* commits to continuing to inspect the existing cable within the marine environment and at shore landfall locations in accordance with inspection requirements for the proposed cable.

- From the CBA, Option 3B when compared to Option 2A identifies that should SHEPD decommission the existing subsea cable installation, this will have a negative impact on societal value in the region of £616k.

9.7 More extensive details of the CBA recommendations can be found elsewhere within this submission

10. Certification

10.1 Kevin Galbraith

Head of Subsea Cable Project Delivery

Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc

Inveralmond House

200 Dunkeld Road

Perth

PH1 3AQ

10.2 I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with statutory requirements.

10.3 Signature

10.4 Date: 6th August 2021

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Appendix A Pre-Application Consultation Event Notice

1. Statutory Public Notice

Situations Vacant

Crossroads Caring for Carers
Post of
CROSSROADS CARE ATTENDANT
For Stromness and West Mainland
£10.10 per hour and £11.11 per hour for unsociable hours, mileage at 36p per mile
Crossroads Care Orkney is looking for a caring, capable person to work with clients of all age groups and disabilities. The work will include personal, social and domestic care. Our respite care scheme allows unpaid carers a break while we look after their dependants either in their own home or by taking them out to activities. Relevant qualification or experience in caring would be an advantage but is not essential, as training will be given. Applicants will need to have a full driving licence and access to a car. For additional information, contact the manager: orkeid@crossroadsorkney.co.uk or call the number below. Application form and job description available from: Crossroads Care Orkney, Kirkwall Travel Centre, West Castle Street, Kirkwall, KW15 1SG. Tel: 01856 870500 or carers@crossroadsorkney.co.uk. Closing date 5pm on Friday, 28th March, 2021. Crossroads Care Orkney operates an Equal Opportunities Policy. Registered Charity No. SC22796. Company No. 94342.

Crossroads Caring for Carers
Finance Administrator/ Receptionist
Salary £10,945 - £21,947
Crossroads Care Orkney is a long-established voluntary organisation supporting unpaid carers anonymously and practically, as well as being a care provider.
We are looking for a Finance Administrator/Receptionist to join our small, busy, friendly team which is based in Kirkwall. Applicants must have excellent communication, organisational and IT skills. Experience in SAGE accounting software, or equivalent, essential.
Application packs, including a job description and personal specification, can be obtained from the Orkney Carers Centre, West Castle Street, Kirkwall KW15 1SG. For an informal discussion about the post, contact Orkney Tel on 870500 or orkeid@crossroadsorkney.co.uk. Crossroads Care Orkney operates an Equal Opportunities Policy. Charity No. SC22796. Co. No. 94342.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
required for a lady in Stromness. Various shifts available, mornings 9 to 11am and evenings 9 to 11pm. Car driver preferred but not essential. £11.00 hour. Apply to: Eilish Beth Cassidy ILSS Manager on 870777.

RELIEF PERSONAL ASSISTANT required for a lady in Harray for personal and social care. £11.00 per hour. Car driver essential. Apply to: Eilish Beth Cassidy ILSS Manager on 870777.

Island of Hoy Development Trust
Part-time, fixed-term contract, Cleaner/Careaker for YM Longhope
Hours per week: 15
Salary: £9.50/hour
Funded until 31st May, 2021
Closing Date: 19th March, 2021
Duties will include general cleaning and weekly safety checks. There will also be some otherholder duties. Hours are flexible and will be determined by the building activity.
For more information, contact: Kieran Shields, YM Project Officer on 01856 701364, ymprojectofficer@ym.gov.uk. Applications may be emailed to the above address or posted to: Revenue, Naval Hall, Longhope, Stromness, KW16 3PG.

ARCHIBON & CLARKE LTD.
Painters and Decorators
We are looking for a time-served painter and decorator willing to work in various locations throughout Orkney.
• Experience on new-build and domestic decorating.
• Ability to tape and fill would be an advantage.
• CSCS registered or the ability to obtain CSCS
• Clean driving licence would be an advantage.
For further details of positions, please write to: Iain Clunes, Archibon & Clarke Ltd, 2 West Sletta Park, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0UZ, or by email: iain.clunes@archibon.co.uk Tel: 01856 696659 Mobile 07579 642876

MASONS JOINERS CONSTRUCTION OPERATIVES
Good rates offered
Casey Construction Ltd
Tel: 01856 870150 (day)
01856 874175 (evening)

Public Notice

Orkney Islands Council
Council Tax Charges plus Scottish Water – water and waste water charges 2021/22

The Council Tax for the financial year 2021/22 has been set in accordance with Section 99 of the Local Government Act 1992 at £1,208.48 for a property in Valuation Band D, which is the same rate as 2020/21.

Scottish Water's water and waste water charges have increased by 2.47% for 2021/22. Orkney Islands Council is not responsible for setting the water and waste water charges, but must bill and collect these charges on behalf of Scottish Water. The amount payable will be reduced if a property is not connected to these services.

Each property is given a Council Tax Valuation Band, between A and H, based on its open market value as at 1 April 1991. The Council Tax charge for each Valuation Band is based on a proportion of the Band D amount. The following table shows how much will be payable for a household with two or more persons aged 18 years or over.

Council Tax Band	Property Valuation (based on market value as at 1 April 1991)	Council Tax	Water Supply	Waste Water Collection	Total
A	up to £27,000	£805.65	£141.66	£154.45	£1,101.77
B	above £27,000 to £35,000	£909.59	£165.97	£179.87	£1,255.43
C	above £35,000 to £45,000	£1,074.20	£188.88	£219.28	£1,482.36
D	above £45,000 to £58,000	£1,208.48	£212.49	£246.89	£1,667.86
E	above £58,000 to £80,000	£1,367.81	£250.71	£281.51	£1,900.03
F	above £80,000 to £106,000	£1,563.78	£306.06	£336.53	£2,206.37
G	above £106,000 to £212,000	£2,366.61	£354.15	£411.15	£3,131.91
H	above £212,000	£2,950.78	£424.98	£493.58	£3,870.34

A discount of 25% will apply for a household with only one person aged 18 years or over.

Contacting the Council
If you would like advice on making payments, paying arrears of Council Tax, or would like advice on other types of Council Tax discounts or exemptions, you should telephone the Council on (01856) 875555 Extension 2138, David Dal (01856) 880322 or email: enquiries@orkney.gov.uk. You can also write to the Revenue Section, Orkney Islands Council, Council Offices, Kirkwall, KW15 1NY, or visit the Council's website at www.orkney.gov.uk.
Claire G. Watson,
Head of Finance,
10 March 2021.

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc
MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013
Notice is hereby given that Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc (a company registered in Scotland under number SC213460) having its registered office at Inverlorn Road, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth PH1 3AQ plans to hold an online pre-application consultation event between 2pm and 6pm on Thursday 29th of April.
The meeting is in regard to the installation of 2 submarine electricity cables from Orkney to Hoy to Cheltenham on Mainland Orkney. The replacement cables are critical for a safe and reliable supply of electricity to our customers. This proposed licensable marine activity lies between:
Hoy Landing 58°54'18.0"N 3°17'17.7"W
Mainland Orkney Landing 58°53'40.4"N 3°12'26.1"W
Should you wish to participate in the online event or register initial comments on the proposed installation of a submarine electricity cable, then you can do so by writing to the prospective applicants at: submarinecables@sse.com
Or by post to: Submarine Cable Team, Inverlorn House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth
PH1 3AQ. Further registration details will be provided upon receipt of correspondence.
Comments should be dated and clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making comments. Comments made to the prospective applicants are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. If Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution submits an application for a marine licence to Scottish Ministers, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

The Orkney Islands Council
(Ynysty Road, Tankerness)
(Temporary Closure)
Order 2021
Orkney Islands Council has made the above-named Order under section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to ensure the safety of site personnel and road users while construction works for the repair and replacement of a culvert are carried out.
The Order will come into operation on Monday 22 March 2021 for the period until and including Monday 5 April 2021 and its effect will be to close that section of the Ynysty Road, Tankerness, between the properties of Aikens and Co. of Holland, when required. Traffic signs will be erected to indicate when the road is closed.
John W. Mansfield,
Interim Chief Executive,
Council Offices, Kirkwall,
Orkney, KW15 1NY.
11 March 2021.

James Richard Groat trading as John M. F. Groat & Sons Ltd of Anchorfast Buildings, Longhope, Stromness, KW16 3PG
is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To add an operating centre to keep 1 Goods Vehicle and 2 trailers at Hoy Hotel, Stromness, KW16 2NT.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hilcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.
Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice.
A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

James Richard Groat trading as John M. F. Groat & Sons Ltd of Anchorfast Buildings, Longhope, Stromness, KW16 3PG
is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To add an operating centre to keep 2 Goods Vehicles and 2 trailers at One Building, Lyness, Orkney, KW16 2NT.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hilcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.
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A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

www.orkadian.co.uk
Probably Orkney's most popular website

SNP ORKNEY
SNP Virtual Q&A Sessions
If you have any questions for our candidate, Robert Leslie, join one of these sessions:
Sunday & North Ronaldsay—Tuesday, 16th March
Westray & Papay—Thursday, 18th March
Each session starts at 4pm
Email: secretary@orkneysnp.scot for meeting details (Zoom)
Presented by Mike Robertson, Solgus, Orkney, KW17 2QD on behalf of Robert Leslie, 2 Lynesside, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1ST.

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		Review Date: August 2024		

Appendix B Pre-Application Consultation Event Promotion

1. Additional Newspaper Advertisement

THE ORCADIAN NEWS 7
Thursday, April 22, 2021

Rapist and child abuser jailed

A RAPIST AND child abuser was jailed last week, years after a victim first contacted police to make allegations against him.

A woman who was a child victim of Edwin Cuschieri gave a statement to officers in 2009, reporting crimes against her.

At the time, Cuschieri (67) was interviewed by police, and released without charge. No further action was taken, but he went on to commit further sex offences.

The hotel receptionist, of Hellier Way, Shapinsay, was finally brought to trial at the High Court in Edinburgh.

He denied a string of offences during the proceedings, but a jury unanimously convicted him of six charges last Friday, including three of rape and two sexual assaults. All of the offences were committed in Orkney between 1988 and 2016.

Cuschieri's first victim was a woman who was subjected to repeated rapes at different addresses. During assaults, she was pulled by the hair and subjected to derogatory remarks by her abuser, between 1988 and 1994.

The former diver also molested and raped a girl when she was aged eight or nine. She told the court that she was the victim of a sexual assault which haunted her for years.

In August, 2016, he carried out an attack on another woman at a house in Kirkwall, and molested her. DNA evidence linking Cuschieri to the crime was found on her bra.

The distressed victim revealed what had taken place to her mother, and the police were contacted.

Between May, 2014, and 2016, another woman was subjected to sexual assault by him on occasions in Kirkwall, when he touched her and made sexualised remarks and comments to her.

The 50-year-old told the court that during visits to an address, she had encountered Cuschieri, but had issues with him when he was drunk. She said on one occasion he pushed her and told her that if another woman was not present, he would have carried out a sex act on her.

On another visit, she was left feeling uncomfortable after he touched her in a way that was inappropriate.

Cuschieri told the court that he had first moved to Scotland to work as a diver off Caithness, but moved on to Orkney to make "a new start".

His defence solicitor advocate John Keenan pointed out to him that one woman had given evidence that he started having sex with her when she was asleep, but Cuschieri responded: "I wouldn't do that under any circumstances. It's wrong."

After the jury found him guilty of the charges, the trial judge, Lady Scott, told Cuschieri: "You have heard the verdicts. This is a serious matter."

She deferred sentence until next month for the preparation of a background report. Cuschieri, who was on bail, was remanded in custody.

He was placed on the sex offenders register, and details of his convictions will be sent to Scottish ministers under the protection of vulnerable groups legislation.

Nordic Sea pier trials under way



The mv Nordic Sea returned to Orkney on April 3, and began pier trials and crew familiarisation on the Gairsay/Moaness route.

The newest addition to the fleet made her first passenger trip as part of her familiarisation trials, after becoming fully-certified for operations in UK waters on April 9.

The Nordic Sea was purchased with the intention of taking over from the Golden Marianne, which has been serving the Westray to Papa Westray route for over 30 years.

"Initial customer feedback has been very positive," a spokeswoman from Orkney Islands Council confirmed this week.



The Grand Whisky Auction

Looking to sell your whisky?

Orkney bottle collection: 27th April

Book a free, contactless & socially distanced doorstep collection or see us at the Kirkwall Drop Off Point at 3pm

Next auction: 5th May

Fast payment | Record prices | Low commission | Free valuations

To find out more or book:
Call: 01463 210 427 or Email: sales@thegrandwhiskyauction.com

★ Trustpilot  Excellent • Reviews 402

Orkney-Hoy subsea cable replacement project

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Distribution is seeking your views on the planned installation of two 33 kilovolt electricity cables between mainland Orkney and Hoy North and Hoy Centre.

The submarine cables, which run from Quoyness on Hoy to Cletrain on Mainland Orkney, are critical for a safe and reliable supply of electricity to our customers.

In order to gather your views SSEN is holding an online Pre-Application Consultation event between the following times:

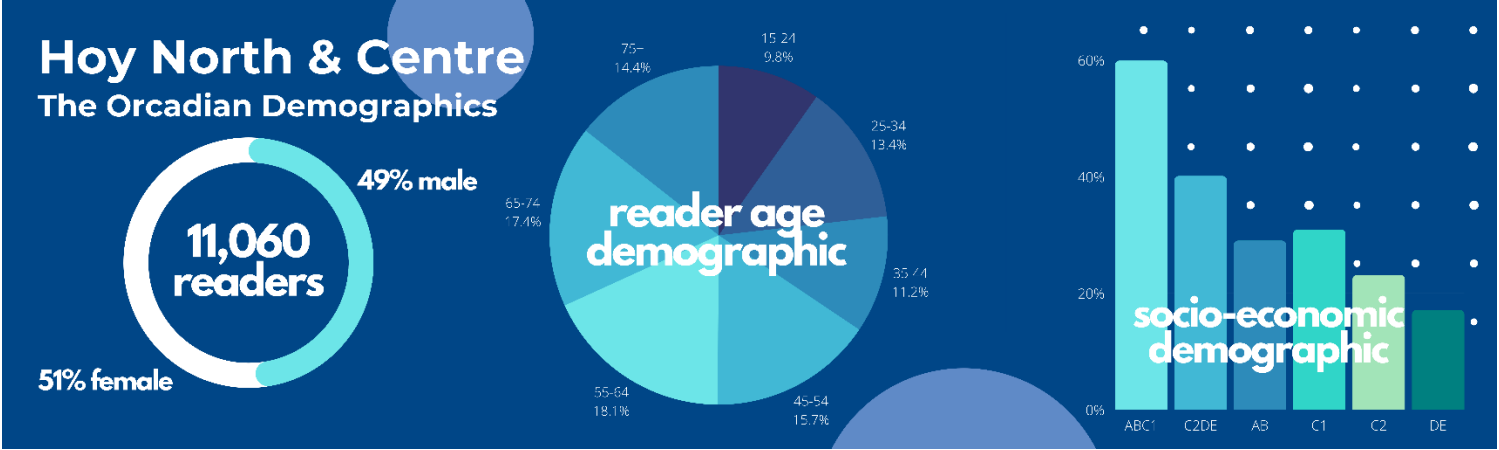
 2pm - 6pm  Thursday 29 April 2021

To register your interest in participating please email: submarinecables@sse.com

 Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks **Powering our community**

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2. Newspaper Demographics



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3. Direct Mailing Invite



Orkney communities encouraged to have their say

Good afternoon,

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Distribution is hosting an online consultation event on the planned replacement of two 33kV submarine electricity cable which run between the Orkney Mainland and Hoy North and Hoy Centre.

As part of these developments, the project team is looking to engage with local customers, communities and stakeholders to seek their views as they finalise the details and prepare the necessary applications process.

In order to gather opinions and answer any questions, the Submarine Cable team will be holding a 50-minute long, online engagement event. The session will be held between the following times:

Time: 2pm to 3pm

Date: Thursday 29th of April

Should you be interested in participating, then please register by emailing submarinecables@sse.com or clicking on the button below:

Click here to register for event

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			✓	
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4. Website Article and Statistics



New Works for 2021

We are engaging with a number of organisations, stakeholders and communities as we plan our programme of works for 2021 and beyond.


[Upcoming Works](#)



Frequently Asked Questions

Find out the answers to all of the common FAQs that have arisen as part of the initial consultation process.


[FAQs](#)



About Us

We're responsible for monitoring the efficiency and integrity of the submarine electricity cable network which provides power supplies from the mainland to fifty nine Scottish Islands.

[About Us](#)



Video Library

Check out our videos to see the work that goes into installing and decommissioning our subsea electricity cables.

[Video Library](#)

Upcoming Events

Hoy North & Centre: Installation of two 33kV electricity cables

Thursday April 29 from 14:00 - 18:00

We will shortly begin the replacement of two 33kV submarine electricity cables which run between the Orkney mainland and Hoy North and Hoy Centre.

The installation of the cables from Quoyness on Hoy to Cleftrain on Mainland Orkney is critical for a safe and reliable supply of electricity to our customers.

As part of the development of this subsea cable installation project, we are seeking the views of local communities and stakeholders.

In order to register for the event, please email the address below:

submarinecables@sse.com

News and Views



We are to proceed with replacement cable between Skye and Harris

Following extensive consideration and stakeholder engagement, we have confirmed our decision to proceed with the replacement of the 33 kilovolt cable which runs from Ardmor, Skye to Beacraik, Harris.

[Read more](#)



We are to replace subsea cable connecting Lewis and Harris to the Scottish mainland

Following a fault to the 33 kilovolt cable connecting Lewis and Harris to the Scottish mainland, we can confirm we are starting a project to undertake an end-to-end replacement of the subsea cable.

[Read more](#)

Useful links

[Accessibility](#)
[Using this website](#)
[Contact us](#)

[Careers](#)
[SSE.com](#)
[Modern Slavery Statement](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)
[Cookie Notice](#)
[Refund Policy](#)

**POWER CUT?
CALL 105**

Emergency phone numbers

England: 0800 072 7282
Scotland: 0800 300 999

Social media



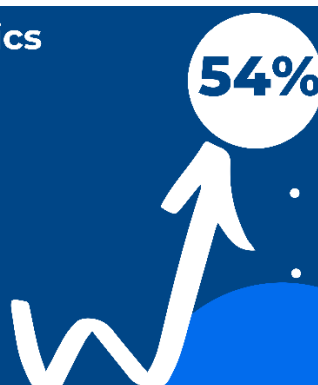
Hoy North and Centre Website Statistics



Av. Time on Page



Page Views



Bounce Rate



Active Eng. Sessions

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5. Social Media Posts and Statistics

Facebook



Post 20/04/2021



Post 26/04/2021

Statistics

Reach - 4,563
Shares - 6
Likes - 27
Clicks - 5

Twitter



Post 20/04/2021



Post 26/04/2021

Statistics

Imprns - 4,563
Engs - 6
Retweets - 2
Likes - 3
Clicks - 3

LinkedIn



Post 20/04/2021



Post 26/04/2021

Statistics

Imprns - 1,579
Shares - 3
Reactions - 19
Clicks - 14

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Appendix C Pre-application Consultation Event

1. Online PAC Event Video




Please click on the image above to view our Hoy North & Centre Online Project Consultation Event video, or alternatively copy & paste the link below into your browser window:

<https://anyware3.learningtree.com/p697y0cd1qxx>

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Appendix D Pre-application Consultation Feedback

1. Feedback Form



Your comments

We hope that you have found the information on our website useful. To help us record your views about our submarine electricity cable proposals, please take a moment to complete this short questionnaire.

Consultation events

Did you attend one of our consultation events, if so how did you find out about it?

Local newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/>	SSEN website	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local website	<input type="checkbox"/>	Word of mouth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poster	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Which event/s did you attend?

Replacing the cable

The routing, installation and protection methods proposed for replacing this cable are acceptable.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Not sure	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please include any further comments here:

Our proposal

Do you support or object to these proposals as they stand?

Strongly object	Object	Not sure	Support	Strongly support
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What cable are you referring to?

What could we do to improve the proposal?

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Appendix E Pre-application Consultation Presentation

1. Pre-Application Consultation Event Presentation



Cable Replacement

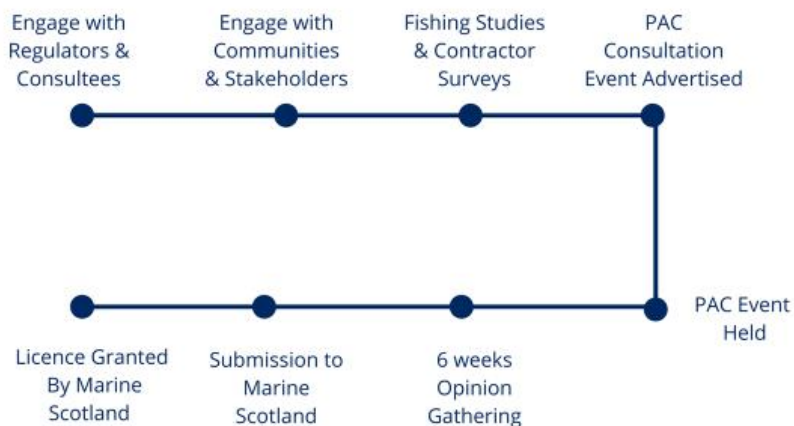


- The like-for-like replacement of two 33kV submarine cables providing electricity to Orkney
- Cables run from the peninsula East of Linksness on Hoy to the landing point immediately West of Houton on Mainland Orkney
- The replacement cables are critical for a safe and reliable supply of electricity to our customers



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Consents Timeline



Cable Facts



- North Cable - 4.4km
- Centre Cable - 4.6km



Max. Depth – 20 metres



- North Cable - 36 kg/m
- Centre Cable - 51.5 kg/m



- 3x Copper wire cores
- Fibre Optic elements
- Polyethylene insulation
- Polyurethane covering
- Galvanised wire braid protection



- North - 127mm diameter
- Centre - 155mm diameter

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Project Overview

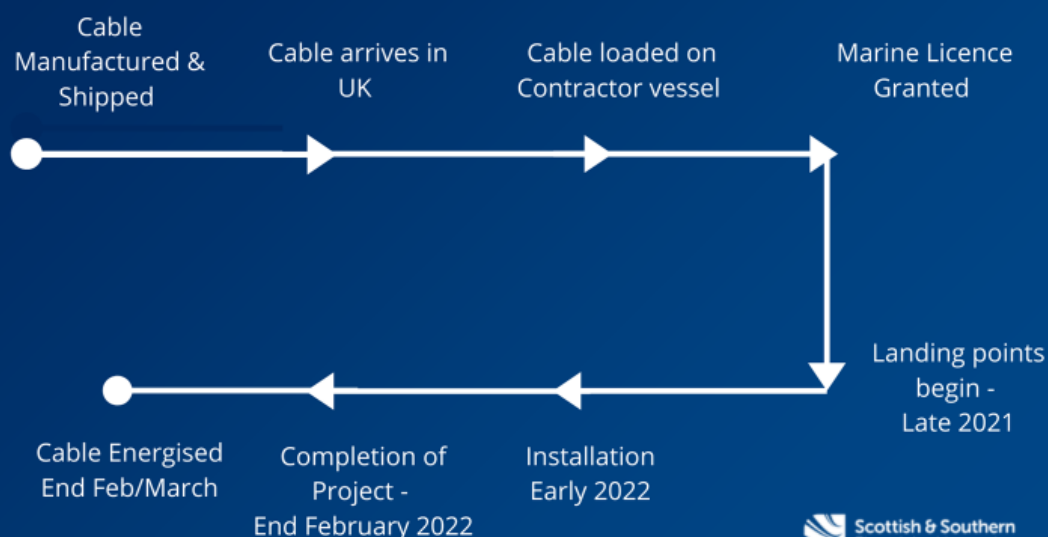
- Existing power cable connecting Orkney and Hoy – North, Central and South
- North and Central identified as being towards end of design life and requiring replacement
- Replacement of these cables is essential to securing power supplies between Orkney and Hoy

Project Operations Include

- Pre-Installation Surveys – to identify most effective cable lay route
- Landfall establishment – to create an onshore work site at each end of the cable route
- Cable Installation – cable lay operations from cable lay vessel both for North and Central cables
- Cable Protection Post-Installation Surveys – installation rock bags/concrete mattresses for cable protection and record location of cables
- Landfall re-instatement – return the work sites to original or agreed state

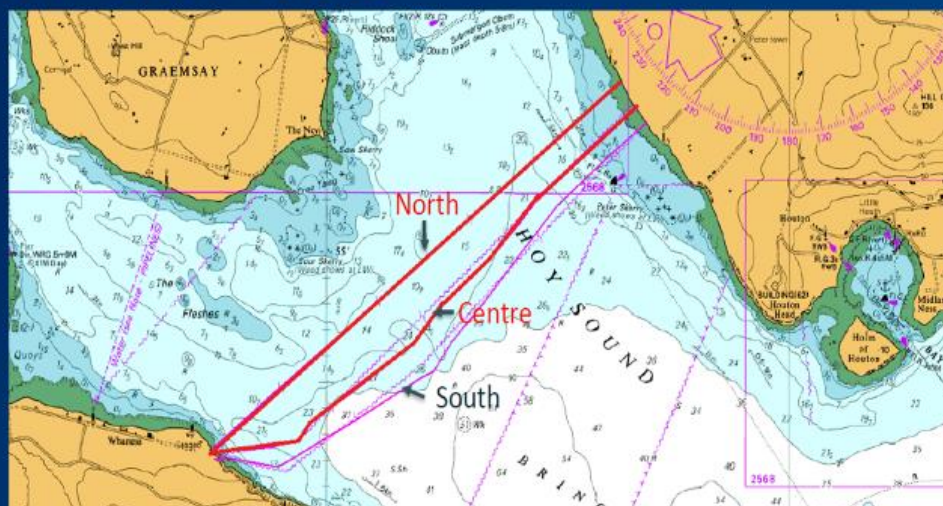


Project Timeline



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New Cable Route



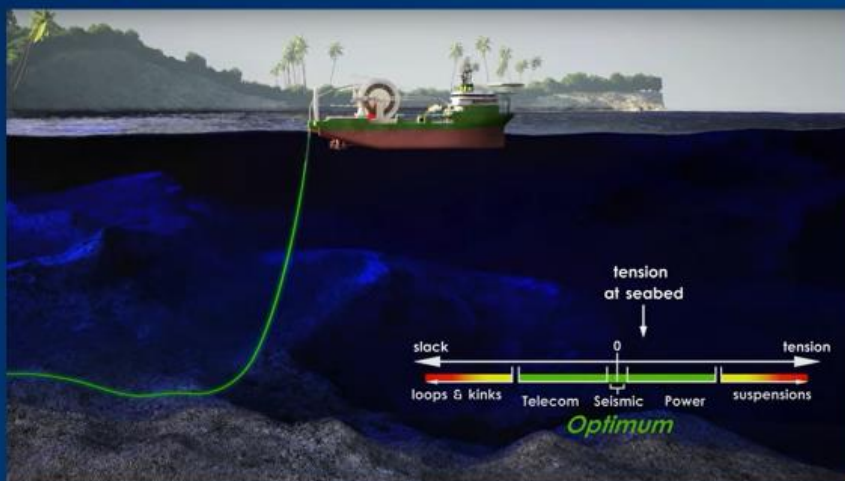
Key Considerations

- Seabed characteristics
- Oceanography and meteorology
- Fishing
- Other human hazards
- Protected areas
- Permitting and licences
- Route engineering
- Terrestrial Connectivity



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Cable Lay Process



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Cable Installation Method



Cable Floated into beach
with pillow floats

Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

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Cable Lay Vessel



Global Symphony



ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Type	DP Class 2
Gross Tonnage	11,324te
Dimension – Length (a/o)	130.2m
Dimension – Beam	24m
Draft	7.5m
Pos (Max.)	105



Cable Protection & Stabilisation

Rock Bags



Trenching



Concrete Mattress



Rock Bags / Concrete Mattresses used to for Stabilisation and Protection of the subsea cable following installation.



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Protecting Our Onshore Environment



- Vegetation surveys
- Ecological walkover surveys
- Archaeological walkover surveys
- Otter Surveys
- Pre-condition and Post-condition surveys for landfall sites



Protecting Our Marine Environment



- Protected sites and species
- Physical environment (water quality & sediments)
- Benthic and Intertidal Ecology
- Ornithology
- Marine Archaeology
- Fish and Shellfish
- Commercial Fisheries
- Shipping and Navigation
- UXO and existing utilities

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Working with the Fishing Community





www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs



Onshore Works and Equipment

Tracked Excavator



Tracked Winch for beach pull





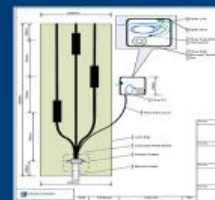
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Cable Works



Articulated Pipe Protection at near shore and beach areas

TJB (Transition Joint Bay) between offshore and onshore cable sections



Thank you and Close

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2. Pre-Application Consultation Stakeholder Engagement

Hoy North and Centre Stakeholder Project Consultation Presentation as delivered to the following recipients on the dates recorded below:

Date	Organisation	Attendees
21/06/2021	Historic Environment Scotland	Alison Baisden
27/05/2021	Crown Estates Scotland	Darren Hirst
19/05/2021	Orkney Fisheries Association	Hannah Fennel
21/04/2021	Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Alex Candlish
19/04/2021	Scottish Fishermen's Federation	Malcolm Morrison
08/04/2021	NatureScot	Erica Knott Kirstie Dearing Ian Cornforth
08/04/2021	Northern Lighthouse Board Maritime & Coastguard Agency	Gillian Burns Thomas Bulpit
31/03/2021	The Scottish White Fish Producers Association Ltd	Femke De Boer
31/03/2021	Ross, Sutherland, Skye & Lochalsh Fisherman's Association	Neil Robertson

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3. Pre-Application Consultation Stakeholder Presentations



Cable Replacement



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- Centre Cable - 51.5 kg/m



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Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

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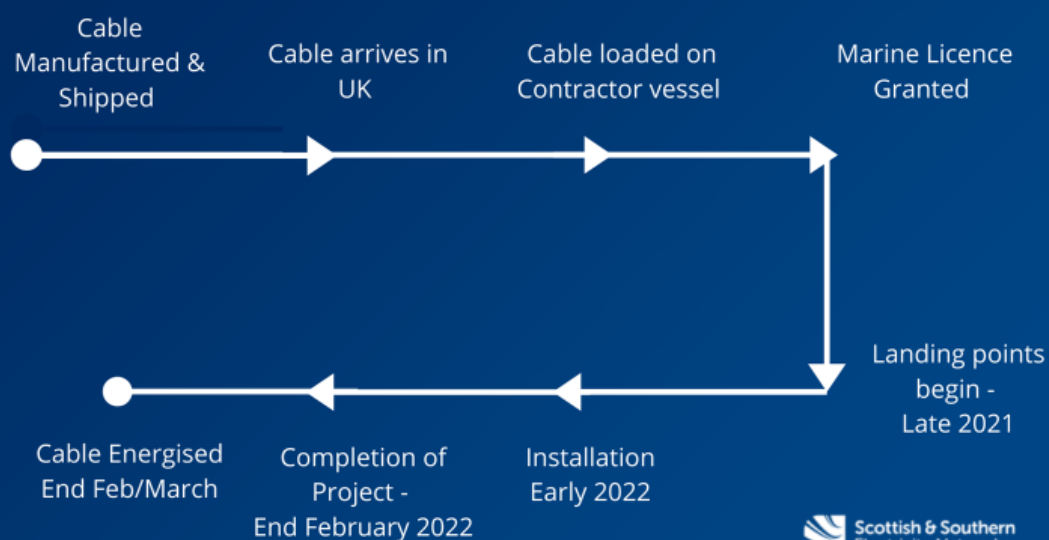
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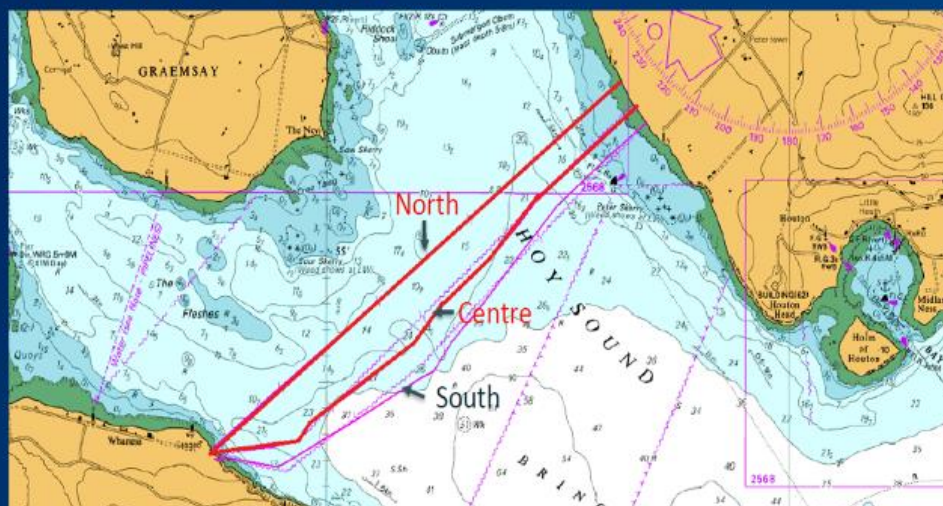


Project Timeline



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New Cable Route



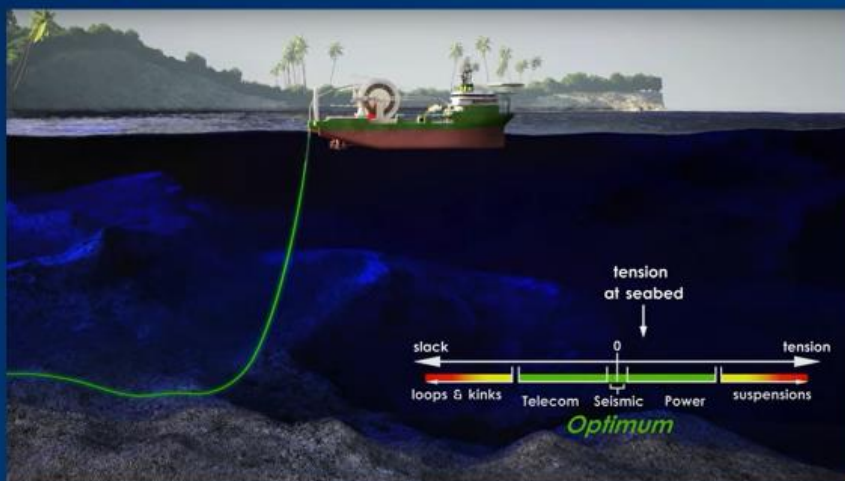
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- Fishing
- Other human hazards
- Protected areas
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Cable Lay Process



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Cable Installation Method



Cable Floated into beach
with pillow floats

Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

XX(X)-NET-XXX-XXX	Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution Pre-application Consultation Report Hoy North & Centre Submarine Cables		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission
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Cable Lay Vessel



Global Symphony



ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Type	DP Class 2
Gross Tonnage	11,324te
Dimension – Length (x/o)	130.2m
Dimension – Beam	24m
Draft	7.5m
Pos (Max.)	105



Cable Protection & Stabilisation

Rock Bags



Trenching



Concrete Mattress



Rock Bags / Concrete Mattresses used to for Stabilisation and Protection of the subsea cable following installation.



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Protecting Our Onshore Environment



- Vegetation surveys
- Ecological walkover surveys
- Archaeological walkover surveys
- Otter Surveys
- Pre-condition and Post-condition surveys for landfall sites



Protecting Our Marine Environment



- Protected sites and species
- Physical environment (water quality & sediments)
- Benthic and Intertidal Ecology
- Ornithology
- Marine Archaeology
- Fish and Shellfish
- Commercial Fisheries
- Shipping and Navigation
- UXO and existing utilities

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Working with the Fishing Community





www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs



Onshore Works and Equipment

Tracked Excavator



Tracked Winch for beach pull





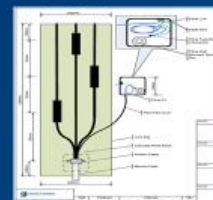
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Cable Works



Articulated Pipe Protection at near shore and beach areas

TJB (Transition Joint Bay) between offshore and onshore cable sections



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Thank you and Close

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