

### Single Post

In the Mid Wales inquiry the inspector suggested that it would be possible to have a double post OHL that would then change to Trident once the line had got to ground that was capable of earthing the line. SP accepted that it was technically possible at no greater cost. Whilst accepting that the Trident design cannot carry 300mm conductors it should be noted that a 200mm conductor could carry in excess of 120MW generated by the windfarms. Should SP have at least looked at the possibility in their Strategic Option Report of using such line especially as at least one of the four windfarms has pulled out. Could there have been an option where the Derwydd Bach could have been connected by some other option whilst Clocaenog and Brenig could have utilised a connection as described above. We could well end up with an over engineered line and sub station if another developer pulls out.

SP in their answer to the single post question state that double post would be needed at altitudes greater than 150m, this is in contrast to the statement in Mid Wales that altitude level would be 250m. Obviously it is another case of figures changing from one year to another for no reason.

### OHL with 'gaps'

In the Mid Wales inquiry the inspector suggested that planning was granted for an OHL line but with a gap in it. From my understanding the minister could grant a line with a gap in it or indeed multiple gaps in it, it would then be up to the applicant to solve the challenge of filling those gaps in an OHL.

### Funding Statement

SP have stated several times that this development is funded by the wind farm developers. As one has pulled out the costs are then carried by the remaining three developers. However, SP also state 'in the unlikely event that any of the remaining wind farm developers defaulted on the terms of its connection agreement, then SP Manweb is confident that it could meet the costs from its own resources, as set out in the Funding Statement and in response to the ExA's question. It would then seek to recover these costs from the defaulting wind farm developer'.

This implies that this cost would not be spread over the remaining two developers if another pulled out and that we could see a scenario where SP were partly developing the connection for itself. Recovering costs from a defaulting Ltd company could be near impossible. If a developer defaults on a milestone payment then surely the contract between them and SP is void.