

SP MANWEB

Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network



Document Reference: 5.1.7
Consultation Report
Appendices to Chapter 9

PINS Reference: EN020021
Planning Act 37(3)(c)
November 2018

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SP MANWEB

**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire
Electricity Distribution Network**

Appendix to Chapter 9

Appendix 9.1 Standard acknowledgement

DCO Document 5.1.7

**PINS Reference: EN020021
Planning Act 37(3)(c)
November 2018**

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www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/north_shropshire

[ADDRESS 1]

[ADDRESS 2]

[ADDRESS 3]

[ADDRESS 4]

[ADDRESS 5]

[DATE]

Dear XXXXX,

Reinforcement to North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network

Thank you for submitting your feedback about SP Manweb's Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network.

If you've provided feedback about our proposed development or consultation, thank you for taking part. All the feedback we receive is important and can help refine the proposed development to reduce any remaining effects.

Please note, it's important that we consider your comments in the context of all the feedback we receive, so we don't respond to each comment individually.

We will summarise the feedback we've received in a consultation report, which we'll publish when we prepare to submit our application for consent. This will give everybody the opportunity to see all the comments we have received, what local people and specialist bodies felt was important and how we have taken this feedback into account when finalising our plans for the proposed development.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to respond to our consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Community Relations Team
North Shropshire Reinforcement Project
SP Energy Networks

SP MANWEB

Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network

Appendix to Chapter 9

9.2 Summary of the consultation events held as part of the statutory consultation

DCO Document 5.1.7

**PINS Reference: EN020021
Planning Act 37(3)(c)
November 2018**



SP Energy Networks North Shropshire Reinforcement Project

Consultation event summary

Event: Cockshutt Millennium Hall

Date: Tuesday 12 December 2017

Time: 2.30pm – 6.30pm

Number of attendees: 7

Staff in attendance:

Steven Edwards (SE), planning lead

Karen Lees (KL), EIA

Keith Friar (KF), lands

Peter Jones (PJ), line design

Kai Pritchard (KP), community relations

Greg Phillimore (GP), community relations

Overview

The event was held at a well-signposted venue in one of the largest communities near to the line. There had been heavy snowfall in the days leading up to the event, although local main roads were clear by the day of the event. Access was good and all members of the project team were able to attend (with some travelling significant distances).

To make access as easy as possible, the project team cleared the main path to the venue door and laid down rock salt. A sign was placed on the main road, to further advertise that the event was open and taking place.

Attendance numbers were similar to events unaffected by weather and the demographic of attendees – primarily landowners or those living very close to the proposals – mirrored other events. This suggests that the inclement weather didn't have an effect on attendance. The project also received no emails or telephone calls from anyone unable to attend.

The whole of the large hall was used for the event with plenty of space available for all materials and panels. A staffed welcome desk was set-up at the entrance to greet attendees and ask people to sign-in.

The team comprised people from all disciplines meaning questions on all topics could be answered (planning, lands, environmental, community relations and line design).

Attendees were primarily landowners, with two attendees being non-landowners.

Lands

In total, three landowners (two couples and an individual) attended the event. Two landowners wished to discuss specific pole positions on their land. The other, who owned land on both the Noneley South and Noneley North option, supported the choice of the North option and wanted to discuss an access track on his land.

Conversations by topic

Question One: *We are proposing an underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an overhead wood pole Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation. Do you have any comments on these plans?*

One couple who were landowners attended to discuss pole positions on their land. The preferred route had previously been straight, but there was now an angle in the route, affecting their field. The couple filled in a feedback form.

A gentleman who lived on the previous Noneley South route attended. He was pleased that the Noneley North option had been chosen and felt that wood poles would be less obtrusive in the landscape to the north of the village.

A landowner attended to discuss a revision to the plans on his land. The project team was already aware of the change he would like to see. The landowner took a feedback form and was advised to put his suggestion in writing.

Landowners who lived near the previous Noneley South option attended and supported the choice of Noneley North. They also provided more information about flooding in some of the nearby fields.

One resident from Cockshutt attended to discuss general information but felt that there would be no impacts on him or the wider village.

Question Two: *Do you have any comments on our outline construction plan and temporary works?*

Landowners from near Noneley wish to discuss the proposed access track on their land. It was noted potential changes to this route would be discussed nearer to construction.

Question Three: *Do you have any comments on our associated construction works?*

Nil

Question Four: *Do you have any comments on our previous work and how the preferred line route has developed?*

A gentleman who lived near the previous Noneley South route supported the decisions made and felt SPEN's previous work was correct.

Landowners from near Noneley felt SPEN had reached the correct decision, based on SPEN's previous work, in choosing Noneley North.

One landowner noted that the option of undergrounding the existing line near to the Noneley North option had been raised at one point but that this had been discounted.

Question Five: *Do you have any other comments about the proposed development, our consultation or the information we have made available for this consultation?*

A gentleman was interested in further information on the PINS process and how consultation feedback is taken into account. He took several feedback forms to provide to neighbours.

Press: No press attended the event.

Written feedback: One feedback form was provided on the day.

Event images



SP Energy Networks North Shropshire Reinforcement Project

Consultation event summary

Event: Hordley and Bagley Village Hall

Date: Wednesday 6 December 2017

Time: 2.30pm – 6.30pm

Number of attendees: 12

Overview

There was steady attendance throughout the event, with at least one visitor in the venue from when the event opened to when it closed. The event was held in village hall, central to the village and close by to several houses. Signage was placed on the road outside to advertise an event was taking place.

The whole of the large hall was used for the event with plenty of space available for all materials and panels. A staffed welcome desk was set-up at the entrance to greet attendees and ask people to sign-in.

The team comprised people from all disciplines meaning questions on all topics could be answered (planning, lands, environmental, community relations and line design).

Attendees were a mix of landowners and members of the public.

Conversations covered points on:

- individual pole sites and potential mitigation measures
- environmental effects
- electric and magnetic fields
- need for and capacity of the new line
- wood pole and underground option
- development of the proposals and influence of feedback

Lands

A number of different landowners attended to discuss the proposals. One family were tenant farmers and attended to get more detail on the proposals. The second had general questions and the third wanted to discuss how the proposals had developed and options for amending the line route. A fourth landowner was supportive of the proposals on his land and was interested in construction plans. Another landowner was also happy with the proposals and asked about potential construction effects, including noise and vehicle movements.

Conversations by topic

Question One: *We are proposing an underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an overhead wood pole Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation. Do you have any comments on these plans?*

One landowner wanted to understand how the route had developed since the original proposals in June 2016 and the influence of landowner feedback. He noted that the proposed line route crosses valuable arable land and it was his view that the proposed line route could affect his crop rotation

plans. He also explained he was considering options for creating a nature reserve and hard standing pitches for caravans. Options for revising the route were discussed, including the possibility of routing poles close to field edges. The landowner explained he had sent an email to the project addressing his points and asked for a reply.

A family who are tenant farmers on land crossed by the route attended to find out more about the proposed route. They asked about the height and span of the wood poles.

A couple who live in close proximity to the line wanted to know more about the environmental assessments undertaken. They noted they had seen kingfishers and otters in the river near their home. They also asked about electric and magnetic fields and clearance between the new line and existing low voltage line.

One gentleman said he had a preference for wood poles compared to steel pylons. He enquired whether the whole line could be put underground and also asked about the different maintenance requirements between overhead and underground technologies.

A lady who lived in the village wanted to see large scale maps. She thought she would be able to see the line from her property, but did not express any concerns.

Question Two: Do you have any comments on our outline construction plan and temporary works?

A landowner had questions about how the line would be built and the pulling positions on his land. He was supportive of the proposals and thought they were sensible.

One gentleman asked about safety clearances for farm machinery operating near to the line.

Question Three: Do you have any comments on our associated construction works?

Another landowner said he considered the proposals were appropriate and that he had no concerns. He asked about the process for constructing wood poles. He sought assurance that construction effects (e.g. noise and traffic) would be kept as low as possible. He also asked that people are kept informed of plans for when construction would take place.

Question Four: Do you have any comments on our previous work and how the preferred line route has developed?

One landowner wanted to know more about the change of the route in the Hordley area and the role of landowner feedback in the decision making process.

A landowner asked about the capacity of the line and was interested to understand about how the network was being reinforced.

Question Five: Do you have any other comments about the proposed development, our consultation or the information we have made available for this consultation?

Nil.

Press

No press attended the event.

Written feedback

No written feedback was provided on the day.

Event images



SP Energy Networks North Shropshire Reinforcement Project

Consultation event summary

Event: Eastern Oswestry Community Centre

Date: Wednesday 13 December 2017

Time: 4pm – 8pm

Number of attendees: 3

Staff in attendance:

Mark Sobczak (MS), SPEN lead

Steven Edwards (SE), planning lead

Ian Wall (IW), lands lead

Keith Friar (KF), lands

Peter Jones (PJ), line design

Kai Pritchard (KP), community relations

Greg Phillimore (GP), community relations

Overview

The event was held in an easily accessible community centre close to housing in the east Oswestry area. Attendance at the event was low, which may reflect the low impact the proposed development is likely to have on the east of Oswestry. Attendees were primarily representatives of interest groups, looking for more information.

The venue was a large space, set-up to provide a welcoming atmosphere that made viewing materials easy and could encourage conversation. A staffed welcome desk was set-up at the entrance to greet attendees and ask people to sign-in.

The team comprised people from all disciplines meaning questions on all topics could be answered (planning, lands, environmental, community relations and line design).

Lands

N/A

Conversations by topic

Question One: We are proposing an underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an overhead wood pole Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation. Do you have any comments on these plans?

One lady attended from an Oswestry Hillfort interest group. She was looking for general information on the project and did not feel it would impact the setting of the hillfort.

The chair of the Shropshire branch of the Ramblers attended to discuss effects on footpaths from the proposed development. He provided written feedback.

A local resident of east Oswestry attended to find out general information on the project, including construction timescales. She did not feel there would be any impacts on her community.

Question Two: Do you have any comments on our outline construction plan and temporary works?

Nil

Question Three: Do you have any comments on our associated construction works?

Nil

Question Four: Do you have any comments on our previous work and how the preferred line route has developed?

Nil

Question Five: Do you have any other comments about the proposed development, our consultation or the information we have made available for this consultation?

An individual from an Oswestry Hillfort interest group asked for more information whether there would be any potential expansions of the existing substation.

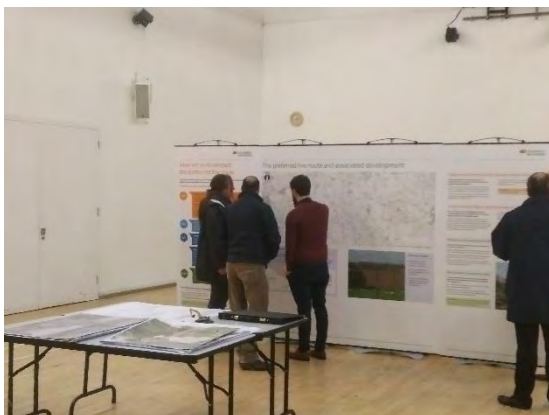
Press

No press attended the event.

Written feedback

The Shropshire branch of Ramblers submitted written feedback.

Event images



SP Energy Networks North Shropshire Reinforcement Project



Consultation event summary

Event: Wem Town Hall

Date: Saturday 2 December 2017

Time: 11am-4pm

Number of attendees: 27 (steady stream of attendees throughout the event)

Overview

The consultation event took place in the meeting room toward the back of the venue, so clear signage, including a café stand (pictured) was put up to clearly direct people. A member of the team was also always on hand by the main reception desk to greet people as they came into the town hall and take them through to the event room. This worked well and provided a useful opportunity to make introductions and identify whether attendees wanted any specific information.

Attendees varied from those with a general interest in the project wanting to understand more, to land owners with specific questions about the line route and their land.

The Wem Town Council mayor was at the event for around 50 minutes and expressed support for the proposed development. It was his view that the new line was important to the local economy and ensuring the future growth of North Shropshire.

Having staff members from all disciplines (planning, lands, environmental, community relations and line design) meant key residents / landowners were identified early and directed to the member of staff best placed to answer their questions.

The materials on display worked well to help answer people's question and prompt discussion, with the large map panels and large-scale maps being used to support many conversations.

Lands

Four landowners known to the project attended, two of which had specific questions relating to wood pole positions; construction accesses; the choice of Noneley North; and refinements made to the Noneley North Option. The other two landowners expressed support for the Noneley North option; one filled in a feedback form and handed it in at the event.

Press:

A photographer from the Whitchurch Herald attended and took a number of photos of the event, including staff and public. No reporter attended.

Conversations by topic

Feedback Form Question One: *We are proposing an underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an overhead wood pole Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation. Do you have any comments on these plans?*

One gentleman asked why the whole route wasn't being put underground.

One lady with property near the Noneley area wanted some general information about the proposed development. Her property was located on the map and it was her view that the proposed development would not affect her. It was her view that wood poles were preferable to steel pylons. She took a copy of Project Update Four and a feedback form.

Three landowners attended whose land is crossed by the proposed development. The new revised Noneley north route means 9 poles on their land, as opposed to 3 previously. It was their view that the Noneley South route was a better option. They had concerns with bird strike, as Noneley North option is close to a reservoir, and noted there were three mature oak trees in close proximity to the route. They asked if the poles would be able to withstand the effects of flooding. They also said it was their understanding that Sleep Airfield had been recently sold for gravel extraction and that it would eventually cease operation.

Another landowner asked about details of the wood poles proposed for her land. She asked for more detail about the selection of the Noneley North option compared to Noneley South. They also asked what poles will look like and were shown pictures and scale models of vehicles were used to demonstrate size.

One landowner suggested a slight diversion to the preferred line route near Burlton and discussed a new bungalow they were planning to build. They then discussed potential power supplies to this new property.

One couple attended whose property is in proximity to the line. They wanted to understand more detail about the route. Potential mitigation measures such as tree planting / screening were also discussed.

One gentleman asked about the need for the proposals and whether it was related to previous wind farm proposals in Mid Wales. He was interested to find out about the local need for the project. It was his view that wood poles were a suitable design for the local landscape and preferable to steel pylons.

A person with land in the Noneley area expressed support for the Noneley North route. It was her view this would have fewer effects.

A gentleman attended to review the route in proximity to his property. On realising the route was to the north of the reservoir in the area it was his view that there would unlikely to be significant visual effects on his property.

Question Two: Do you have any comments on our outline construction plan and temporary works?

One couple asked questions about the construction phase of the project and wanted to know whether construction vehicles would have any effects on local roads, which they noted they used for cycling and walking.

Question Three: Do you have any comments on our associated construction works?

The type of temporary track mat anticipated for use during construction was discussed with one landowner. The landowner provided feedback on which parts of their fields got especially wet.

One landowner asked about plans for the existing line on her land. She was encouraged to provide feedback if she had suggestions.

Question Four: Do you have any comments on our previous work and how the preferred line route has developed?

One landowner queried why the Noneley North option had been revised since the summer. It was his view that more could have been done to communicate this change ahead of the latest stage of consultation.

A gentleman with property in the Noneley area also sought more information on the selection of Noneley North and the reasons for the selection.

Question Five: Do you have any other comments about the proposed development, our consultation or the information we have made available for this consultation?

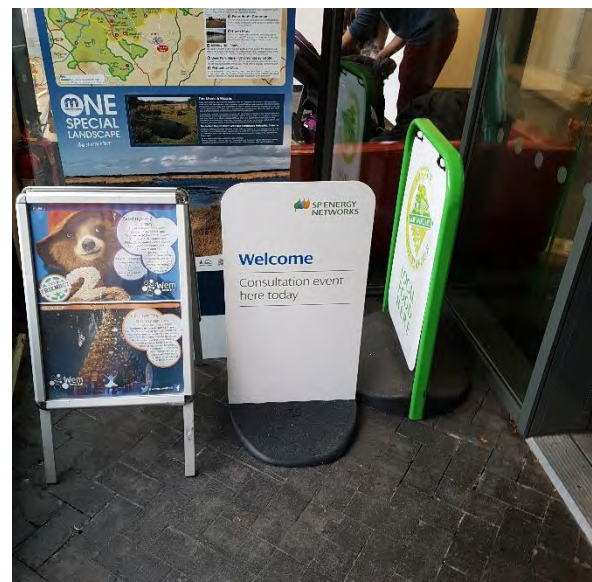
One landowner asked if route decisions were already firmly made and if the route would genuinely be reviewed in response to further feedback. They asked that personnel undertaking surveys communicate better with landowners on when the surveys are taking place and when they plan to come onto the land. In their view, consultation with landowners could have been more thorough and that landowners should be prioritised over members of the public.

One gentleman asked why the proposed development was need and was advised it was in line with Shropshire Council's Local Plan.

Written feedback

One landowner filled out a feedback form and handed it in to the team on the day.

Event images





SP Energy Networks North Shropshire Reinforcement Project

Consultation event summary

Event: Whittington Community Centre

Date: Tuesday 5 December 2017

Time: 4.30pm-8pm

Number of attendees: 8

Overview

Attendees arrived in a steady stream and typically stayed for 15 to 20 minutes. The consultation event took place in the central hall of the community centre and signage was put up to help people find their way.

A reception desk was set up near to the main entrance and attendees were encouraged to sign in. The hall was large, which allowed for a spacious set up. Large scale maps and the exhibition panels were given prominent positions, to help facilitate conversations with attendees while all other project materials were available (see photos).

Staff members from all disciplines were in attendance (planning, lands, environmental, community relations and line design). Most of the attendees were landowners, or lived very close to the proposed development, and conversations focused on individual pole sites or mitigation measures that may be possible.

The conversations that took place were constructive and detailed with people broadly expressing support for the proposed development.

Lands

Two landowners attended the event, both with questions relating to their land interest. The first owns land where the existing lower voltage overhead line is being undergrounded. The consultee was aware that the whole lower voltage line is being refurbished. He was happy with both schemes and supportive of the plans on his land but asked if he could have a single point of contact for both projects.

One family who owned land had been informed that there would be a temporary laydown area on their land. They attended to get more information on what this was and how it would be used. The landowners explained that they had recently bought the land and that it was now used for residential use and not agricultural. The family were encouraged to submit this information in writing so that the proposal could be reviewed in light of the change of land use.

Conversations by topic

Question One: *We are proposing an underground cable between Oswestry substation and Round Wood and an overhead wood pole Trident line between Round Wood and Wem substation. Do you have any comments on these plans?*

One landowner said he supported the preferred line route on his land.

A local resident had a detailed conversation with members of the project team. The proposed development runs very close to her property and she felt a double pole had been placed in an

elevated position. The resident suggested that moving the pole position to the other side of the river would be preferable. She also provided more detailed information on trees near to the line.

An individual who lived in Whittington attended to find out general information about the project. He did not feel he would be impacted in anyway and stated that it appeared a sensible route had been chosen.

A couple attended as they were interested to find out more about the proposed development. They did not feel they would be affected and suggested that the preferred line route had been routed well.

Question Two: Do you have any comments on our outline construction plan and temporary works?

A couple attended who owned land where a temporary laydown area was proposed. They advised that this had changed from agricultural to residential land.

Question Three: Do you have any comments on our associated construction works?

One landowner said he supported the plans to put the existing lower voltage overhead line on his land underground.

Question Four: Do you have any comments on our previous work and how the preferred line route has developed?

Nil

Question Five: Do you have any other comments about the proposed development, our consultation or the information we have made available for this consultation?

Another local resident attended to find out more general information on the project, particularly how it would be funded and constructed. He was generally supportive of the proposals.

Press

No press attended the event.

Written feedback

No written feedback was provided on the day.

Event images

